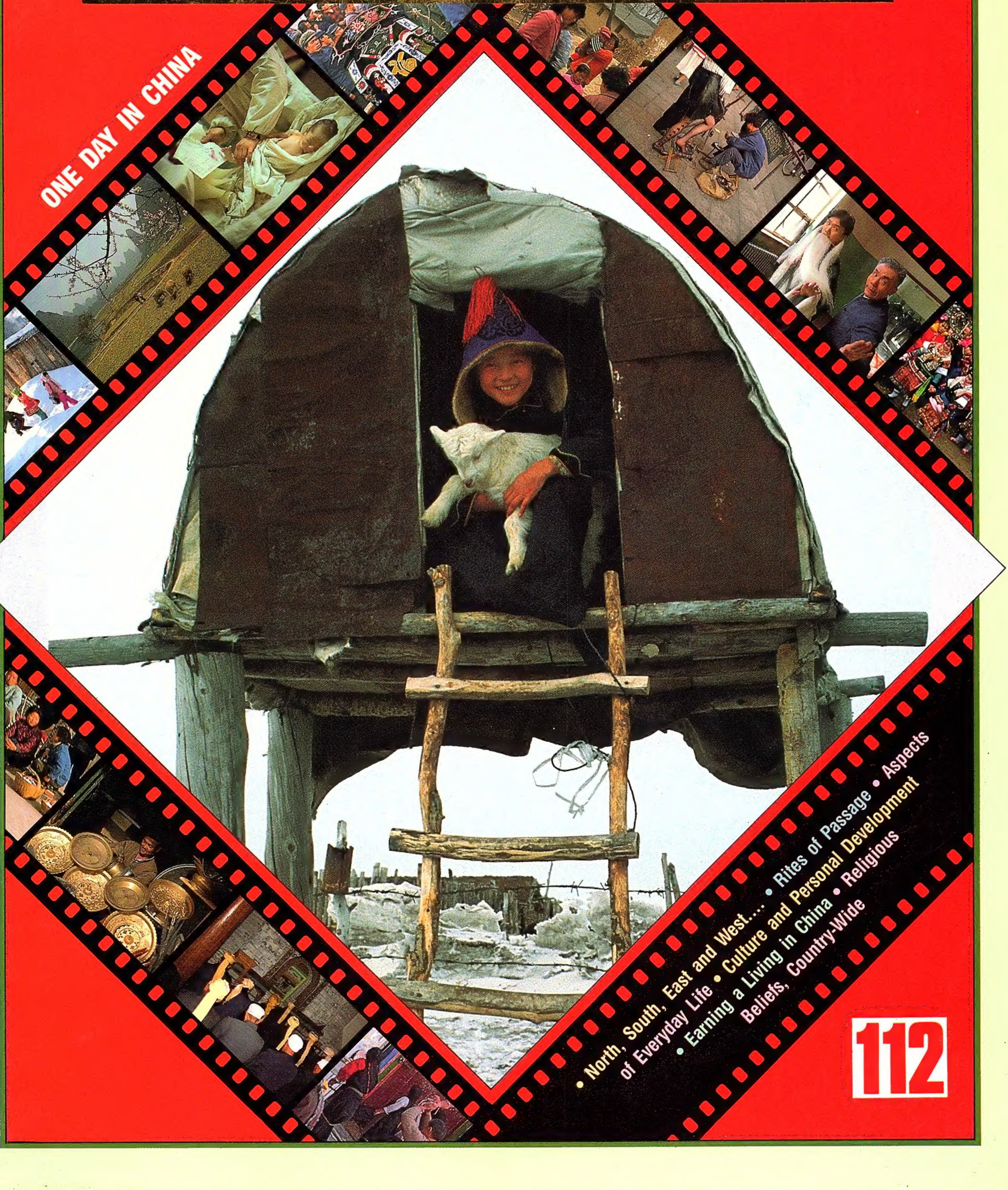
China

TOURISM



ONE DAY IN CHINA

- North, South, East and West....
- Rites of Passage
- Aspects of Everyday Life
- Culture and Personal Development
- Earning a Living in China
- Religious Beliefs, Country-Wide

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The Jiangsu Tourism Bureau owns 34 hotels with 6,266 rooms and has a fleet of 1,263 vehicles including coaches, motorcars and 32 pleasure boats. The bureau also owns several travel-related enterprises.

The Jiangsu Tourism Bureau has offices in Hong Kong and Tokyo, as well as the Republic of Germany. Involved with international travel for many years, the Jiangsu Tourism Bureau has established a strong working relationship and cooperation with 135 travel agencies in 14 countries. It is manned by well-trained and efficient guides who speak various foreign languages. It can also arrange all kinds of tours throughout China. The bureau has a good reputation amongst international agencies and clients.

The representative office of Jiangsu Tourism Bureau in Hong Kong is Jin Ling Travel Co., Ltd.

The activities of Jin Ling Travel Co., Ltd. include:

1. Organizing tours and specialized visits to China for foreigners and overseas Chinese including those from Taiwan, Macau and Hong Kong.
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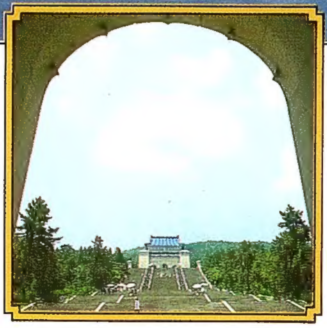
4. Handling of hotel reservations and transportation in major cities in China.
5. Handling and arranging China visas.
6. Assisting in reservation of air tickets to various cities in the world.
7. Provision of trade, investment and consultant services in tourist related matters.



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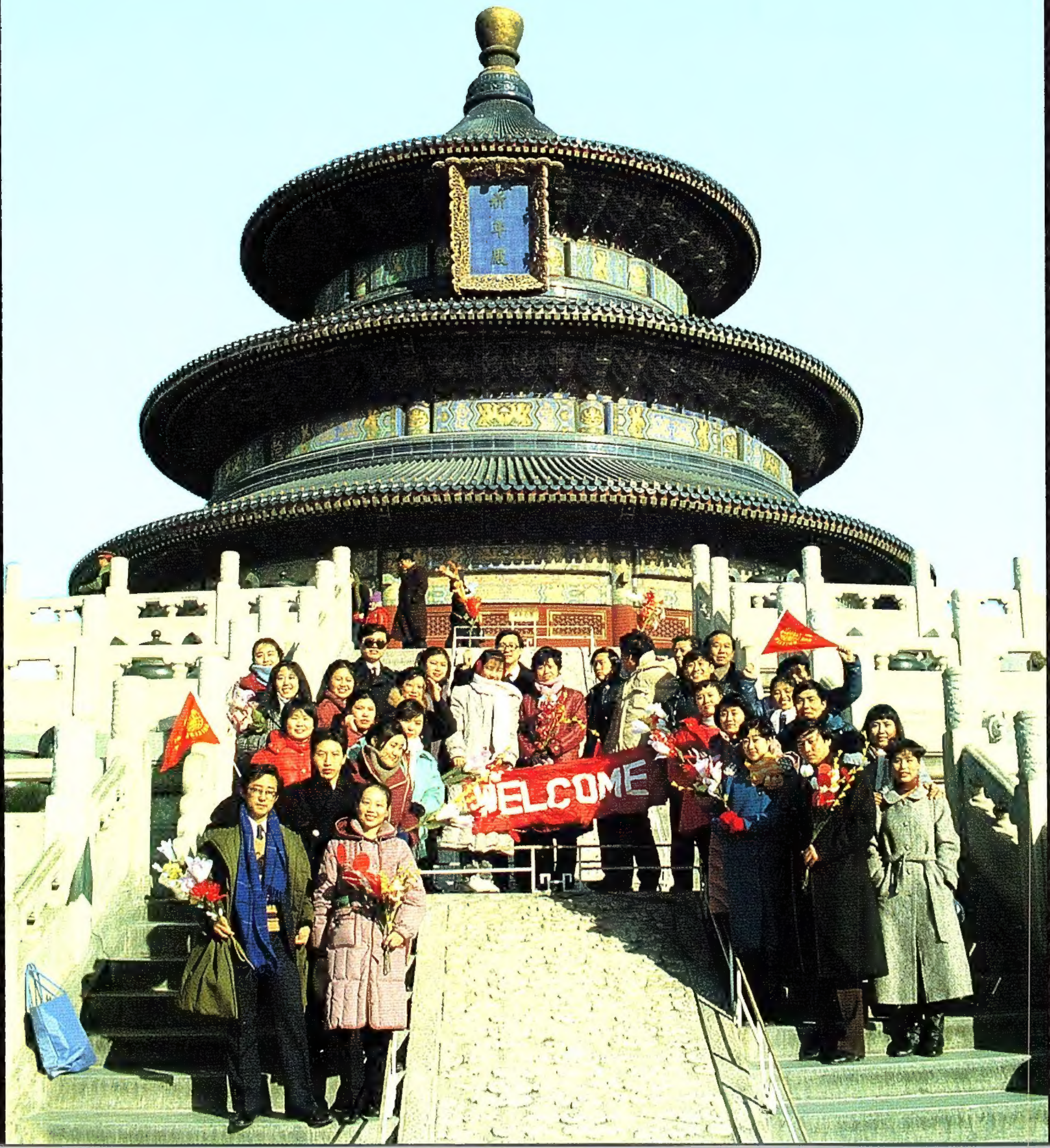

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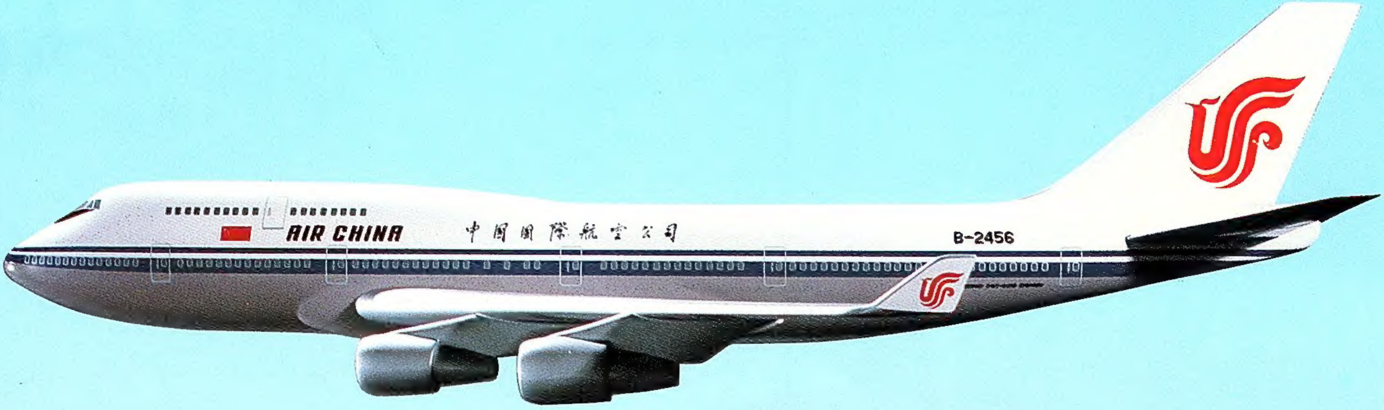

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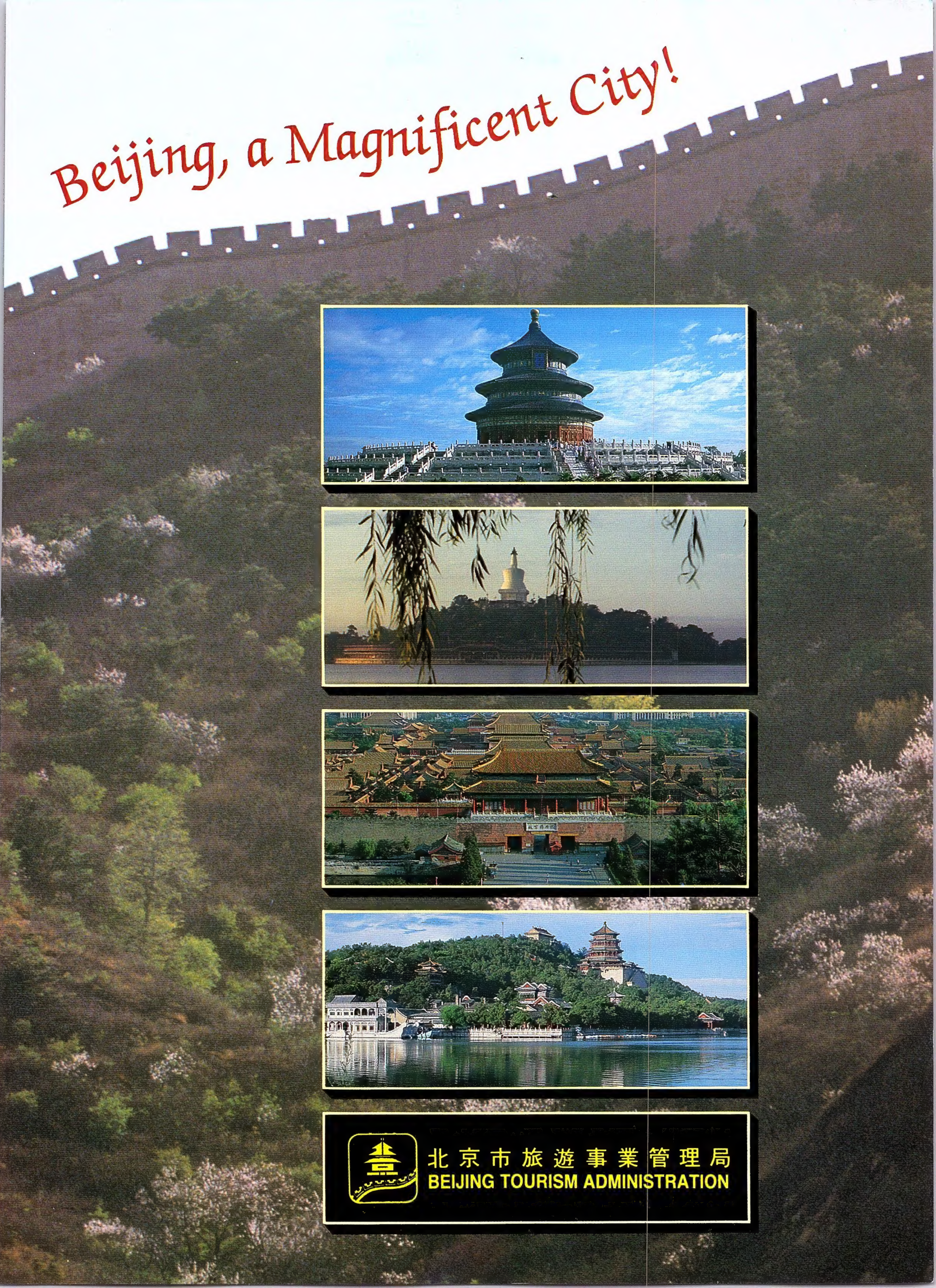

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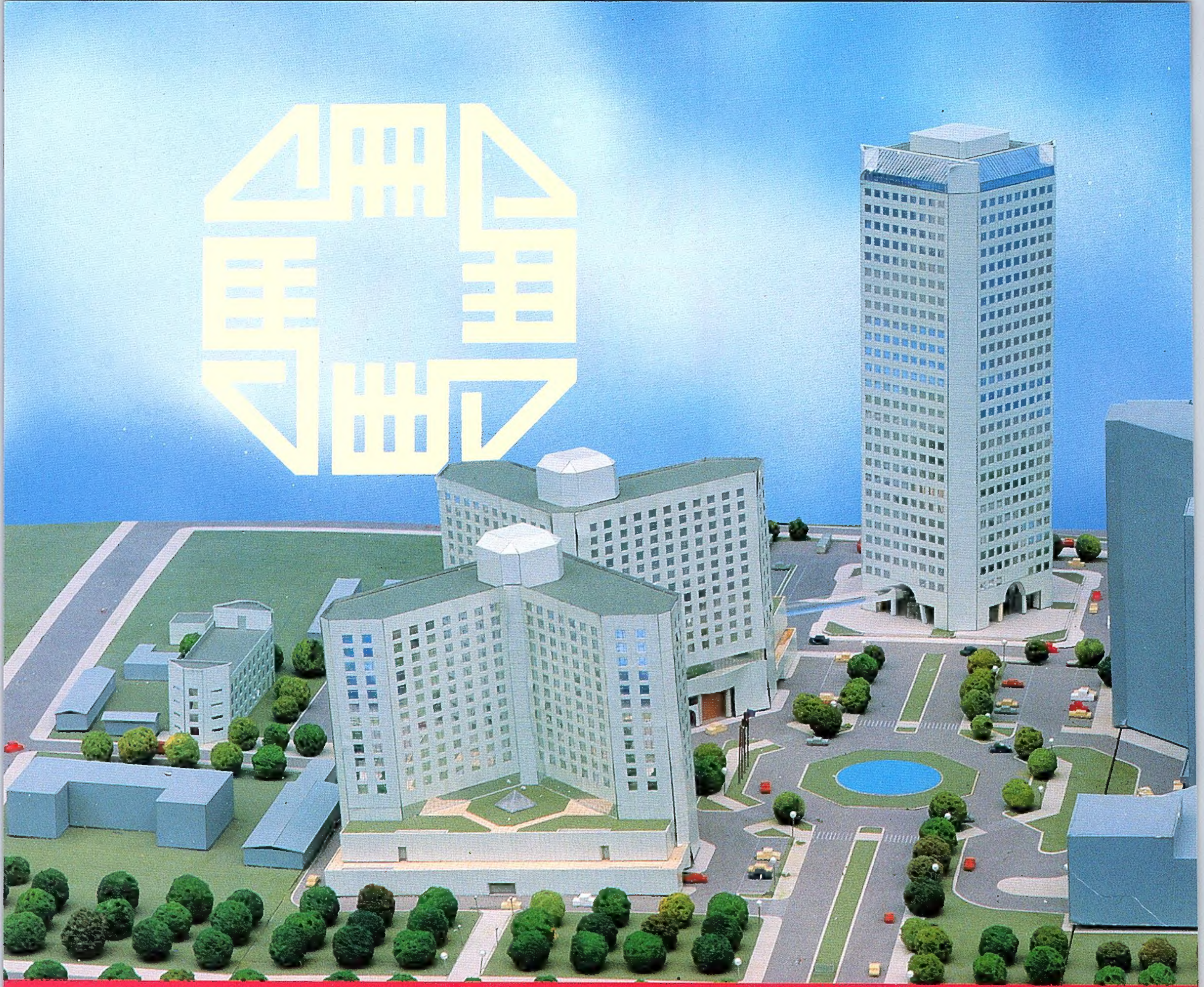

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COMPANY, LIMITED

The Liangmahe Towers complex is located north of the Great Wall Sheraton and south of the River Liangmahe at North Dongsanhuan Road in eastern Beijing. It is expected to be completed at the end of 1989.

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EDITORIAL

A Celebration of China ....

Or, at least, a necessarily limited number of the nation's aspects. Contemporary life in China, as well as the rich variety of China's landscapes, is exposed to the lens in this month's 'ultra-bumper' issue — our largest ever.

The most unusual feature of this issue is that all the photographs appearing in the six articles in the Special Features section were taken on a single day — March 15 1989. This project was launched as far back as June 1988 when we contacted photographers all over China, inviting them to participate. Of the 164 who went into action for us on the stipulated date, 117 photographers are represented in our final selection.

Why, you may ask, did we pick on March 15? Well, there were two major reasons. The first was that this is the time of year, at the changeover of the seasons, when the climatic differences between north and south, east and west, are most accentuated. Secondly, this was not the date of any national festival (such as the Spring Festival or the Mid-Autumn Festival) when people are drawn out of their normal routine and regional variations tend to be masked by a common enthusiasm.

Our special thanks go to Fuji Photo Film Co. Ltd., without whose support this project would not have been possible; they not only provided us with film, they also sponsored our processing costs.

Another plus in this issue is an updated listing of all the places in China now open to foreign tourists and travellers, which we hope will be of use to you when planning your future trips.

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ROUND AND ABOUT CHINA

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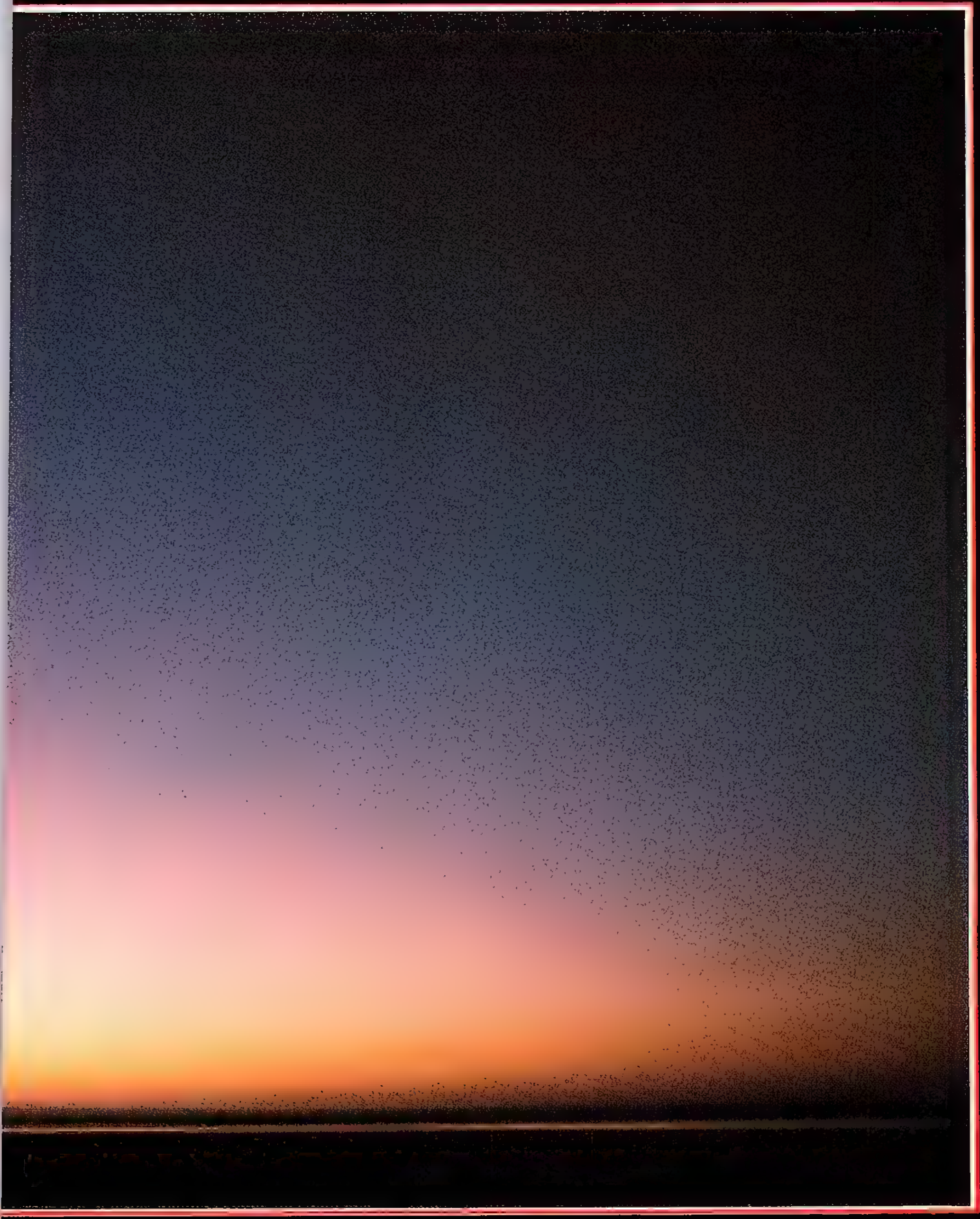

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1989
三 月
MARCH
15
星期三 WEDNESDAY
己巳年二月初八
ONE DAY IN CHINA

One Day in China

The Country's Full Diversity Revealed in a Broad Sweep

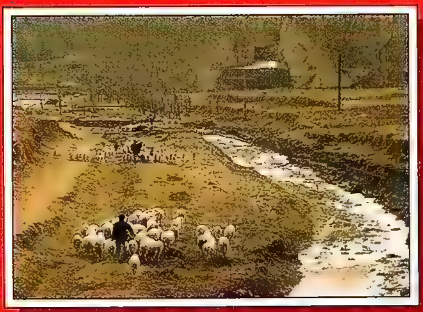
On March 15 1989, 164 photographers sprang into action simultaneously on our behalf on the Chinese mainland, in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau. Their task? To contribute to this aptly named project. From the tropical perpetual summer of Hainan in the far south to the frigid winter of Heilongjiang in the far north, from industrious worker to relaxed idler, from traditional to up-to-the-minute, from the very young to the very old.... This was an ambitious attempt to capture the full variety of Chinese landscapes and lifestyles on film.

It was also undoubtedly the largest and most arduous photographic assignment ever undertaken for CHINA TOURISM in terms of manpower, logistics and materials involved. However, viewed in perspective, the results still show us only an infinitesimal fragment of the Chinese reality — and that on but a single day in a single year!

The most valuable aspect of the over 180 photographs we present here is not just their intrinsic interest or the way in which they reflect China and the Chinese, but their role as a unique record of a moment in time which has gone, never to return.

North, South, East and West....

TEXT BY
JUN FENG



1989
三
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己巳年二月初八
ONE DAY IN CHINA

With its vast territory of 9.6 million square kilometres, China is a land of infinite diversity. It includes both the 8,484-metre-high Qomolangma (Mount Everest), the highest mountain in the world, in Tibet as well as Lake Aydingkol, at 154 metres below sea-level the second-lowest spot in the world, in Xinjiang's Turpan Depression. The maximum altitude difference is thus more or less 9,000 metres — a unique figure in world terms.

Set in the northern hemisphere, China extends for more than 5,500 kilometres from north to south; that is, from the mid-point of the River Heilongjiang (the border with the Soviet Union) north of Mohe in Heilongjiang Province to the Zengmu Reef on the southern fringes of the Nansha Archipelago in the South China Sea.

The distance from west to east is almost as great. It is more than 5,200 kilometres from the Pamirs in western Xinjiang to the confluence of the rivers Heilongjiang and Wusuli in eastern Heilongjiang. There is an effective time difference of more than four hours, so that when it is noon in Harbin, Heilongjiang's capital, it is actually still early morning in Kashi (Kashgar), although both places observe Beijing time.

China therefore straddles a number of climatic zones from frigid-temperate to subtropical, even tropical. But, as a result of the country's position on the west coast of the Pacific Ocean, the climate is also strongly affected by the monsoons, which play an important role in forming China's natural landscape as well as in determining crop patterns.

Because of the time of year — March — at which these photographs were taken, they bear telling witness to the widely varying climates across China. While it was still deep winter in the north, with no sign of thaw, elsewhere the picture was quite different....

From left to right: Liaoning snow scene by Gai Mingsheng; Shaanxi shepherds by Wang Pei; Gansu camel train by Qian Weidong; Yunnan duck-herd by Sun Chengyi; Shandong boating by Li Xia; Guangxi peaks by Chen Yajiang; formations at Keelung, Taiwan, by Tsai Pai-Chun; Hainan beach by Wu Jinqun

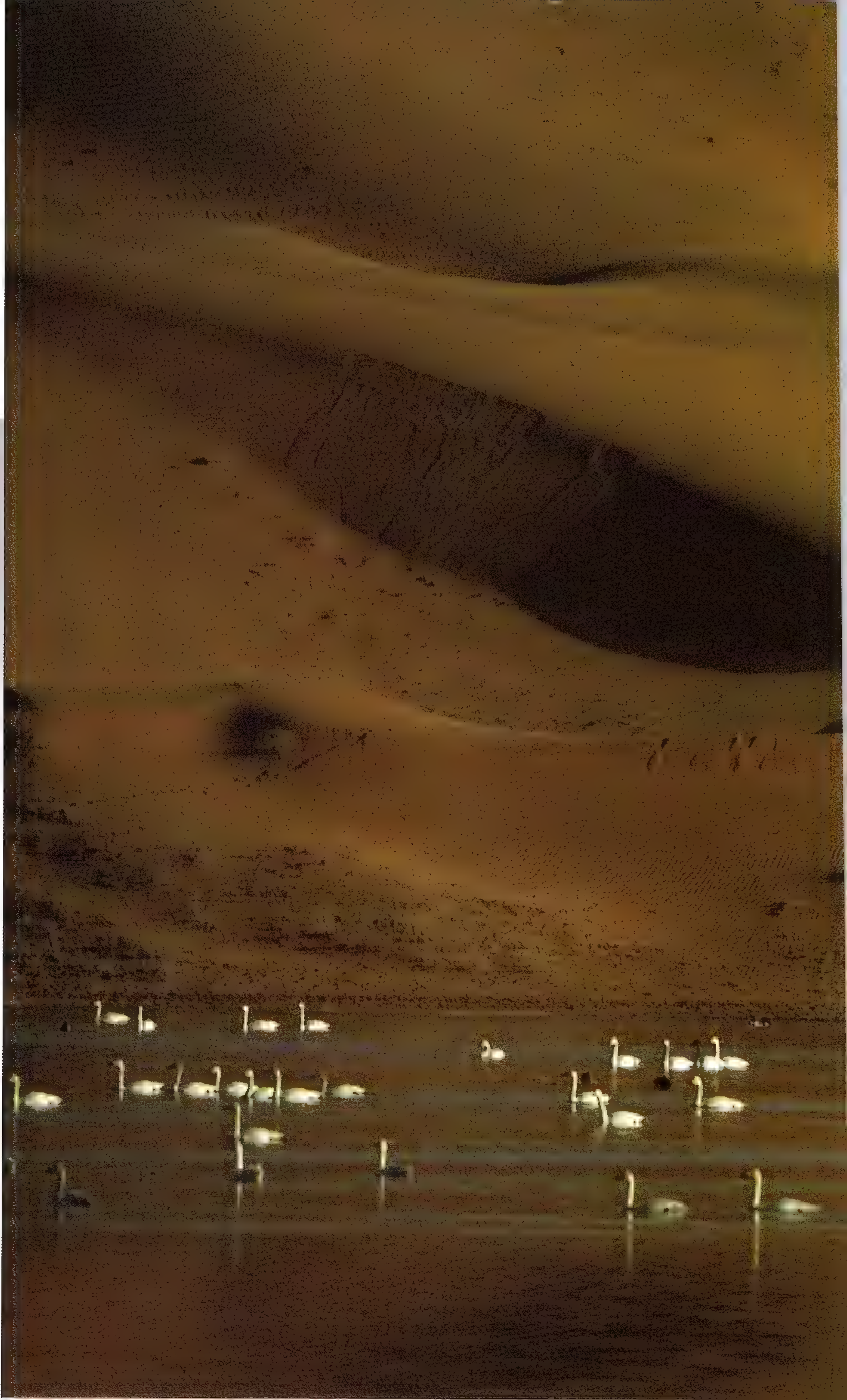
◁
Winter brings heavy snow to Heilongjiang Province in Chin northeast. Of the large forests, son are purely coniferous, other a mixture of coniferous and deciduous. In Hailin County, which has the heaviest snowfall in the country, th log cabins are sti covered with a thick, insulating layer of snow which, despite th weak sunshine an the constant household fires, shows no sign of melting.
Hailin County, Heilongjiang; photo by Gai Mingsheng

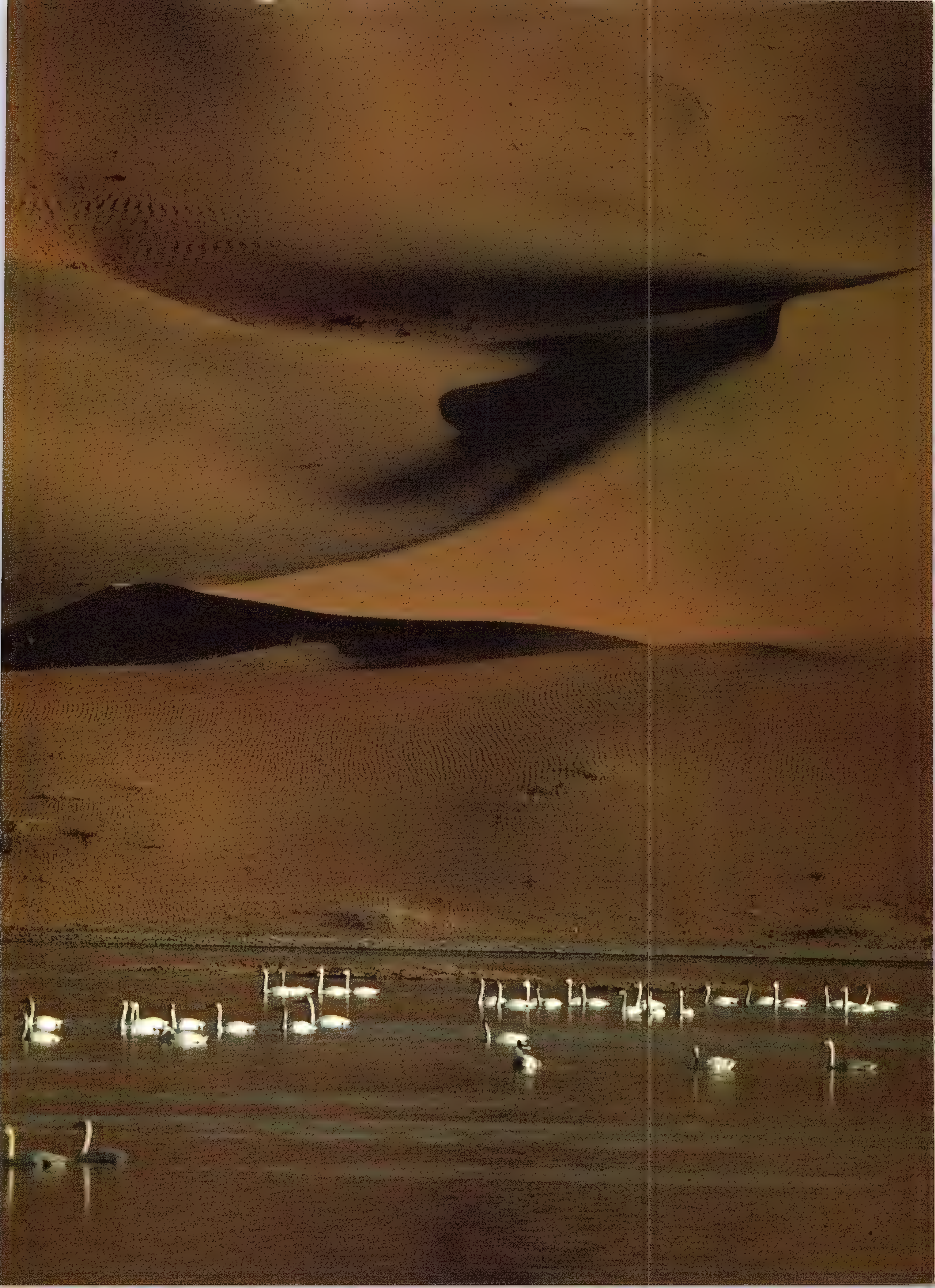
◁
The ice sculptures at Shaoniangong Park in Harbin, capital of Heilongjiang Province, have been enjoyed by many visitors during the Ice Lantern Festival held over the Lunar New Year period which, this year, fell between February 6 and 20 Now, as the thaw approaches, even the majestic Russian-influenced Crystal Palace is not immune to softening around the edges.
Harbin, Heilongjiang; photo by Liu Xiangyang

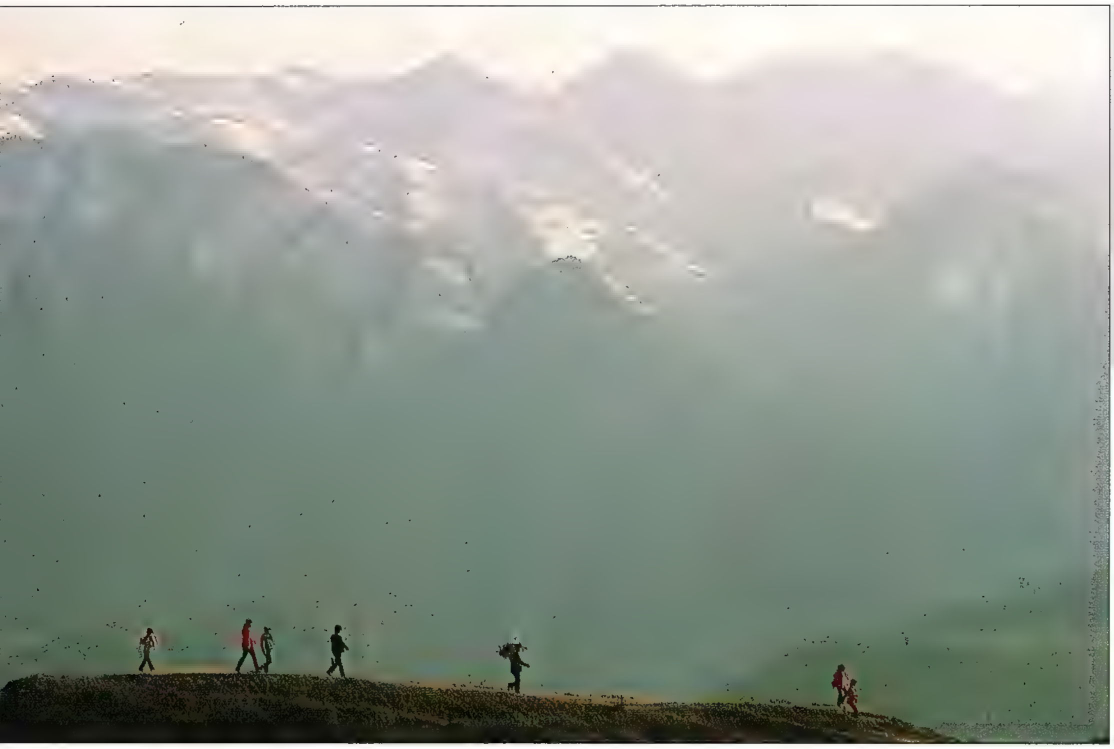
△ Of the fifteen species of cranes in the world, eight are found in China, and six have been sighted at the Zhalong Nature Reserve in Heilongjiang Province, including the famous (and endangered) red-crowned cranes. The ice and snow are starting to melt. The migratory birds are already beginning to return from the south, where they have passed the worst of the winter. ***Zhalong Nature Reserve, Heilongjiang; photo by Xu Xuezhe***

△ The great, flat steppes are still hidden under the snow. Accustomed to the dry cold of this northern region, a youngster ventures out from his family's yurt to play in the sun with household pets. ***Hulun Buir Grassland, Inner Mongolia; photo by Daleng Guribu***

▷
This remote lake protected by high ramparts of sand is buried deep in the Tengger Desert in western Inner Mongolia. Here, swans rest on the icy waters — safe from human intruders — before continuing the long flight north. There are seven or eight lakes nearby, which prove a godsend to migratory birds such as these. After a month or so, they will be on their way, but will return year after year.
Alxa Left Banner, Inner Mongolia; photo by Harsbagen



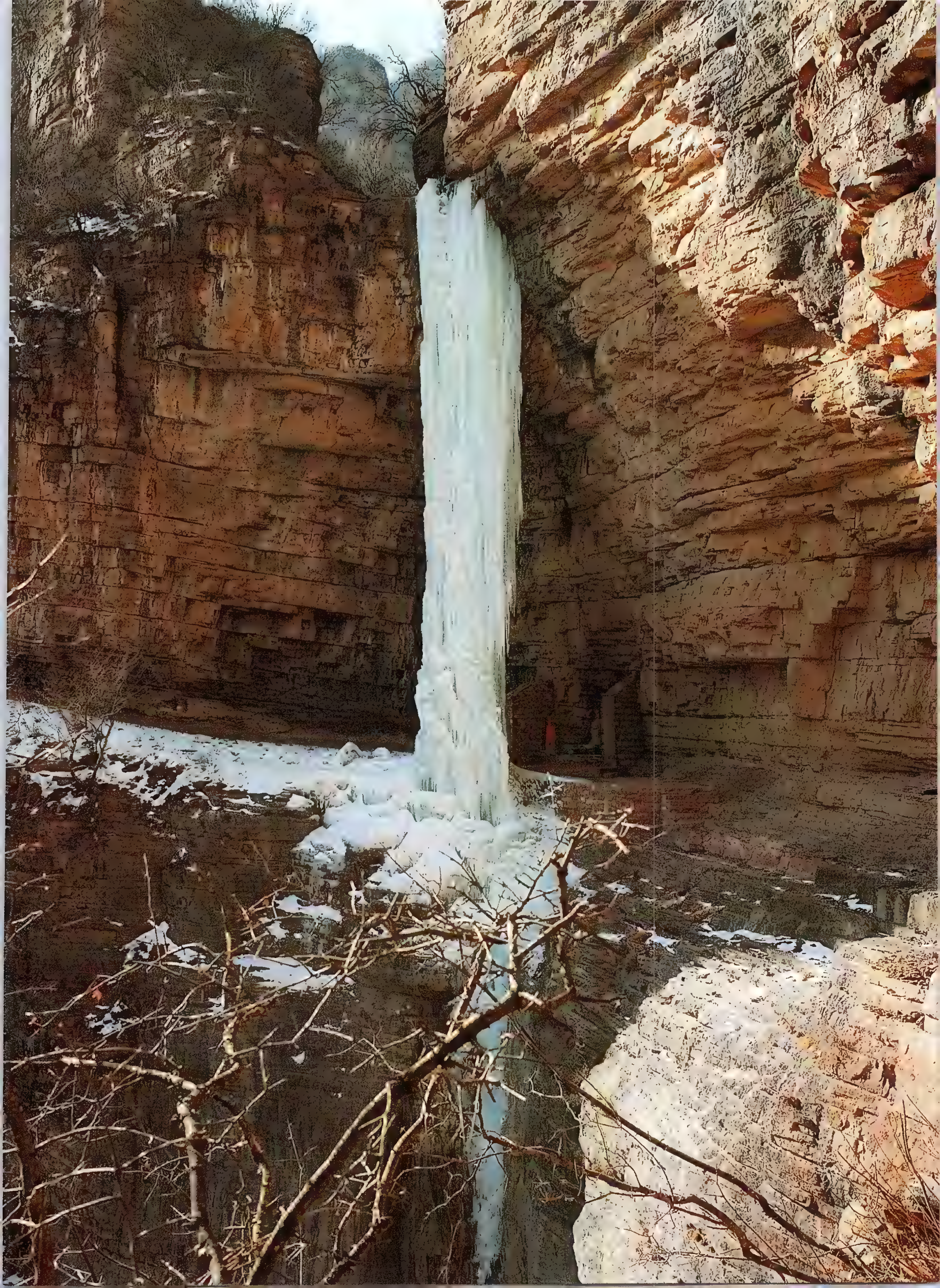




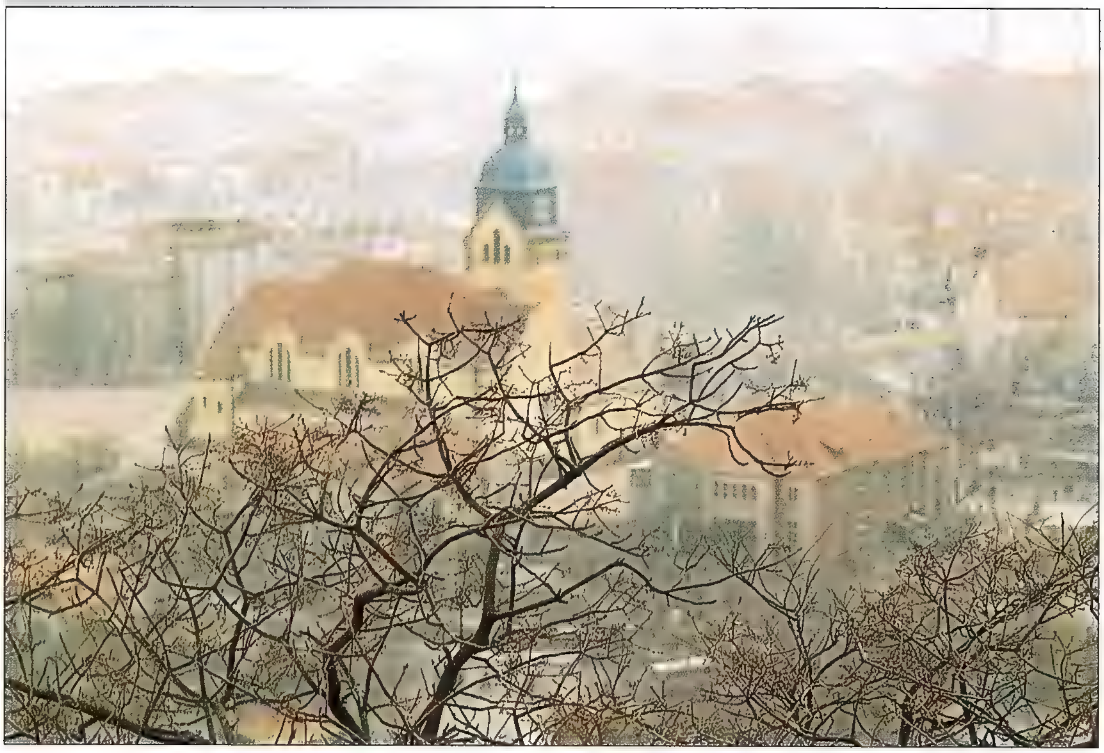
◁
Though the terraced mountain tops are still dusted with snow, their lower slopes have already taken on a tinge of green. The spring winds are sweeping across the Loess Plateau. Despite the continuing chill, people emerge from their cave-dwellings and troop joyously off to market as a popular folksong echoes across the ridges.
Baoji, Shaanxi; photo by Qiu Xiaoming

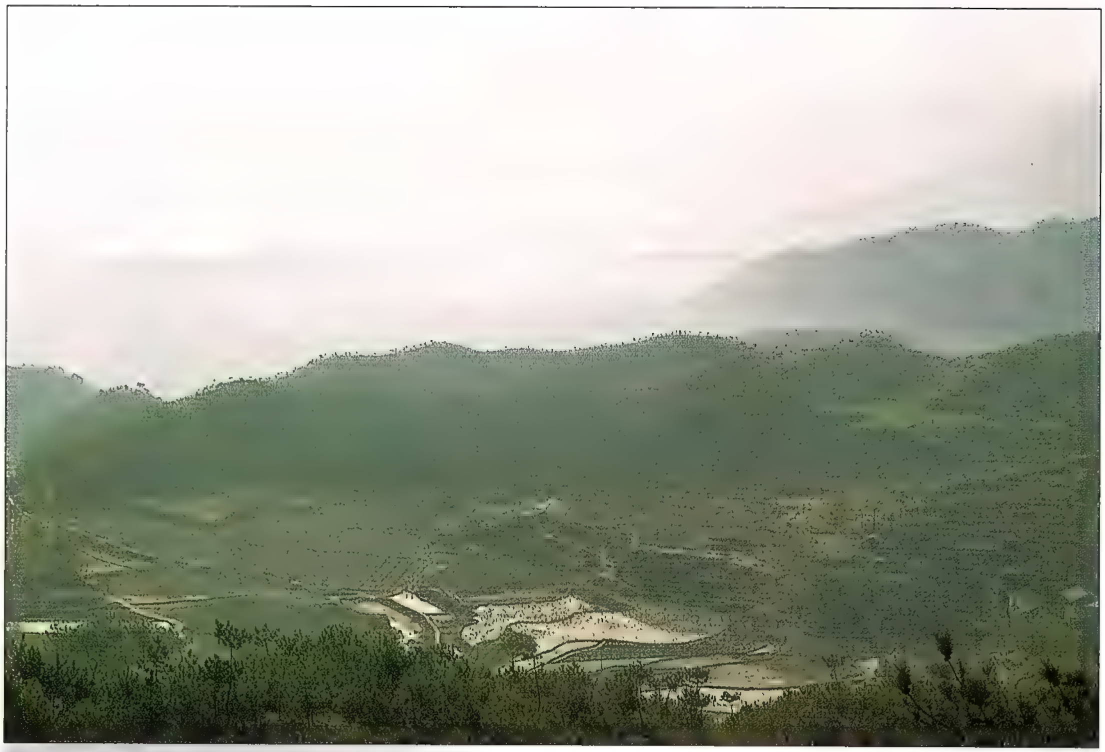
▷
The waterfall in this northeastern Chinese province has been frozen solid for many weeks and will remain like this until the sun strengthens sufficiently to melt it. In the meantime, the continual thawing and refreezing are combining to etch fascinating patterns on the massive column of ice.
Hebei; photo by Gu Shengtian and Yang Zhijian

◁
Having zigzagged across the high plateau, the Huanghe (Yellow River) is a clear emerald-green in its upper reaches at the Longyang Gorge, located between the counties of Gonghe and Guinan in eastern Qinghai. The winter freeze is over, and the waters of the reservoir at some 2,600 metres above sea-level have again started to flow through the dam.
Longyang Gorge, Qinghai; photo by Guo Zhiwei



▽ On what in the port of Qingdao on the eastern coast of the Shandong Peninsula is a moist spring morning, light mist imparts an air of mystery and the trees are just starting to develop buds. The mood suits the city's Teutonic features.
Qingdao, Shandong; photo by Ren Xihai

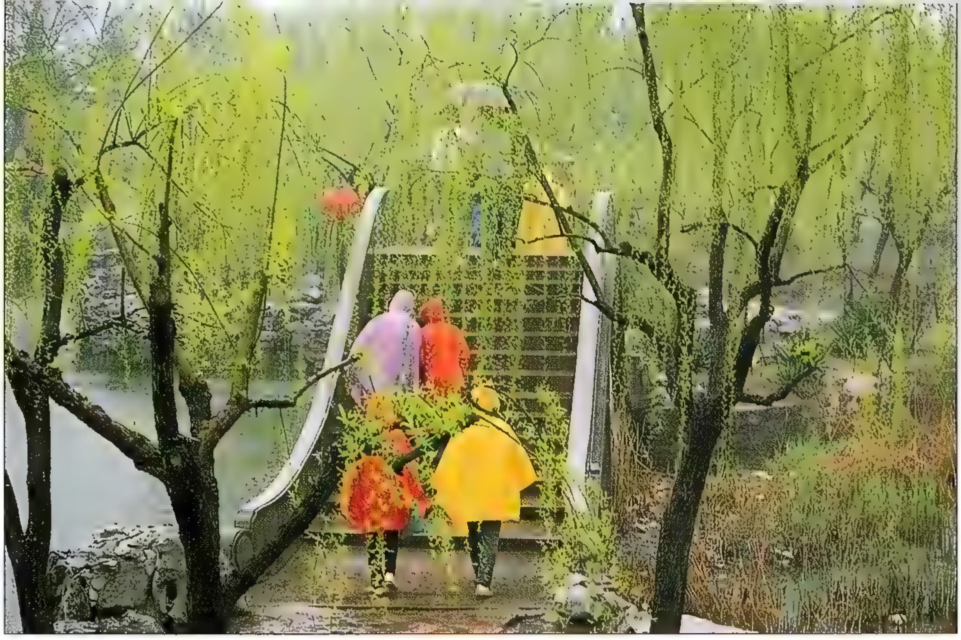




△ Situated in southwestern Anhui in the borderlands between Hubei, Henan and Anhui, the Dabie Mountains, rising to one thousand metres above sea-level, have been eroded and sculpted by tributaries of the River Huaihe as well as by the abundant rain. Mount Huangshan, further to the southeast of the province, receives as much as two thousand millimetres of rain a year.
Yuexi County, Anhui; photo by Kang Shiwei

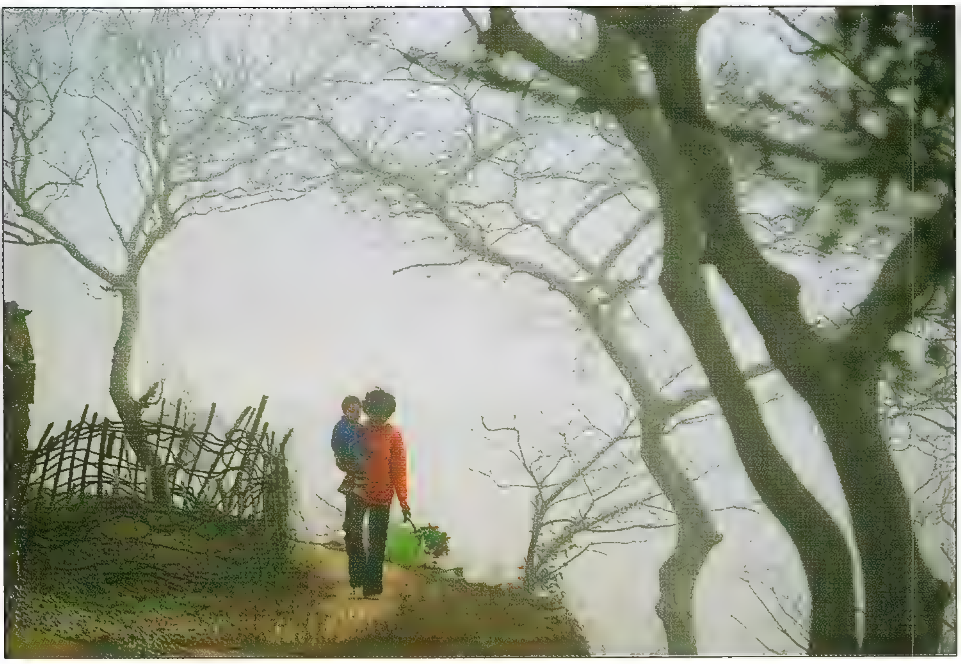
△ In the morning sunshine, a Yi shepherd leads his flock across the iron chain bridge over the River Yuexi with the easy nonchalance of long practice. The surefooted sheep are in any case unworried by the dangers of this crossing as they head out to their mountain pasture in southwestern Sichuan.
Ganluo, Sichuan; photo by Zhong Dakun

◁
This area of northwestern Guizhou inhabited by the Miao people has been turned by their industry into a colourful mosaic of yellow rape and green wheat, the neutral, dark colours of the rough walls and earthen ridges adding an extra contrast. The climate here is relatively mild, with an annual average temperature of 12°C. Nayong County fears neither bitter winter nor scorching summer.
Nayong County, Guizhou; photo by Huang Chengde



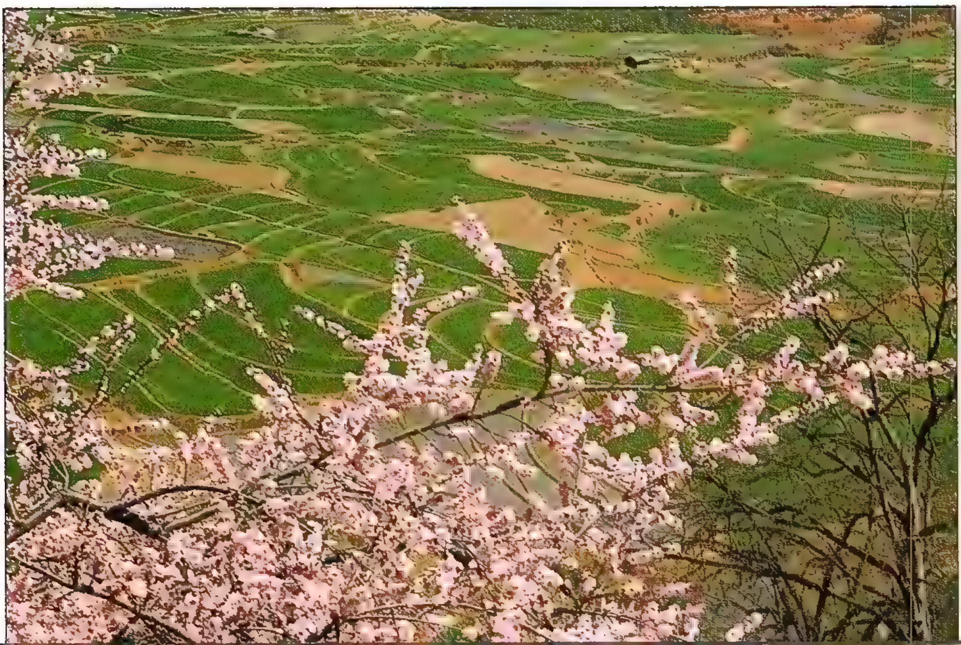
◁
Jiangsu, located in eastern China, is a fertile coastal province set on both sides of the River Yangtse. Lying for the most part at less than fifty metres above sea-level, it is also China's lowest province. The rainy season — the 'plum rains' — begins in late February, bringing more or less constant drizzle and mantling the quivering willows in this Nanjing park with a tender green.
Nanjing, Jiangsu; photo by Xiao Zhuang

◁
A famous city in southern Jiangsu, Wuxi is set between enormous Lake Taihu and the ancient Grand Canal. On this day the peach and pear blossoms, white and pink, vie with one another in splendour as people flock to Meiyuan (Plum Garden) just outside the city and feast their eyes on these harbingers of spring.
Wuxi, Jiangsu; photo by Zhang Jiurong



◁
Zhejiang Province has a heavily indented coastline and many islands, more than any other coastal province. Xiangshan is on a peninsula, with the East China Sea to the east and Xiangshan Bay to the north, and is understandably famous for its fishing industry.

Shortly after dawn, as a woman returns from drawing water from the well, the fog is so thick that the distant prospect is blotted out. The trees are sprouting in the mild sea air.
Xiangshan County, Zhejiang; photo by Song Xingguo



◁
The peach blossoms fill the air with their fragrance. To the Tibetan dwellers of this remote area on the fringe of the Tibet-Qinghai Plateau this is a welcome sign which they have awaited impatiently. In the sheltered lower-lying valleys the crops are making a good showing.
Zhongdian County, Yunnan; photo by Luo Jinhui

△ Guangxi Province contains some of China's most extensive areas of limestone karst. The eighty-kilometre stretch between Guilin and Yangshuo along the River Lijiang presents a celebrated example of karst topography as well as some of China's most picturesque scenery. In this village near Guilin on the bank of the Lijiang, spring is well advanced.
Guilin, Guangxi; photo by Chen Yajiang

▷
The southernmost province in China, Hainan is made up of Hainan Island and sundry archipelagoes in the South China Sea. Coastal features such as mangrove swamps and coral reefs attest to the subtropical, even tropical, nature of the climate. Here there is no winter. Hainan is China's main producer of rubber, coffee, coconuts, cocoa, oil palms, areca nuts, and so on.
Hainan; photo by Wu Jinqun

◁ Flowering trees — among them the ehretia — are sending out wafts of scent to attract the butterflies, which come in swarms to drink their nectar. Thus commences another cycle of nature in the generally mild climate of this island off the coast of Guangdong Province.
Hong Kong; photo by Tai Chi Yin

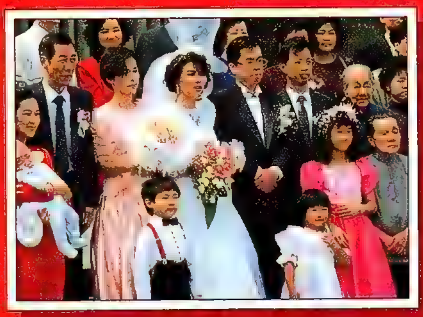
▷
The spring warmth has come early this year. Even the giant flowers of the kapok or cotton tree (*Bombax malabaricum*) are ahead of schedule, standing out dramatically against their bare branches and against the glass facade of the stunning new Bank of China, now nearing completion.
Hong Kong; photo by Tai Chi Yin

Translated by Wang Mingjie

Rites of Passage

TEXT BY JI SI

1989
三
MARCH
月
15
星期三 WEDNESDAY
己巳年二月初八
ONE DAY IN CHINA



Birth, childhood, marriage, parenthood, meetings and partings, joys and sorrows, and finally death: these are the elements, the markers, of life common to all mankind.

Within the context of a single day, Wednesday, March 15 1989, we watch as — all across China — ordinary people undergo one or other of these. But how different experiences can be from north to south, from east to west, from city to countryside!

The welcome accorded any new human life is influenced by the one-child policy, which is an attempt to stem China's run-away population explosion. China contains almost a quarter of the people in the world.

In the crowded cities, marriage must often be postponed for years because of a lack of housing, or the young couple may have to share a room with relatives, but it is at least a personal choice. In rural areas, marriage is often still a matter to be arranged by the families rather than by the individuals concerned.

Funerals tend to be very traditional and may be according to Buddhist, Moslem, Christian or other rites. It is very clear that practices which have long since died out in the cities are still common in the provinces.

Birth in Hubei by Xie Lixing; wedding in Hong Kong by Tai Chi Yin; sharing the burden in Shaanxi by Wu Jun; cremation in Xi'an, Shaanxi, by Pan Ke

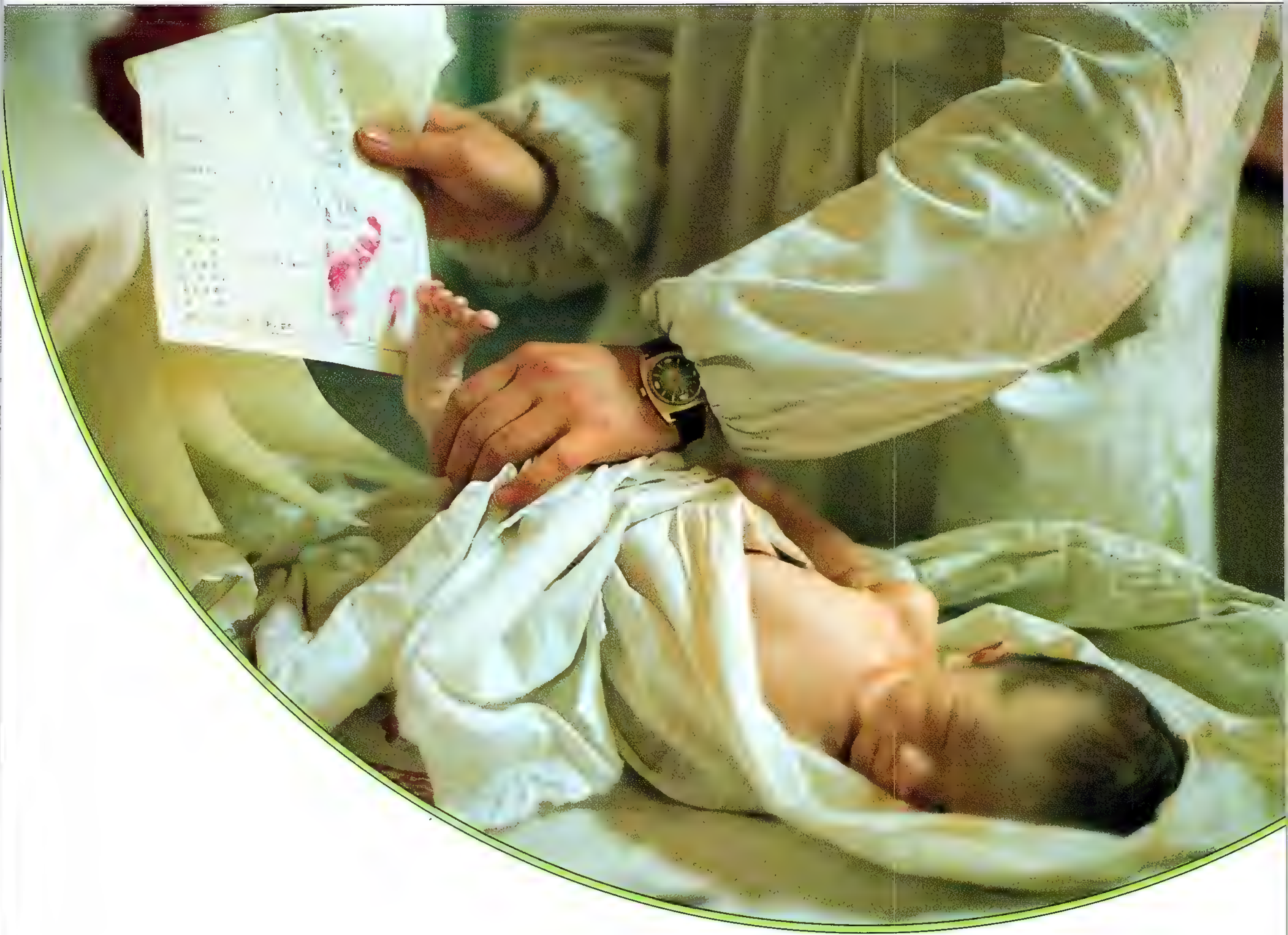
The Early Years: How many millions of births annually by the year 2000?

◁ Only one month after this one-day project, in April 1989, China's population reached the 1.1 billion mark. Alarmingly close to the proposed target of 1.2 billion by 2000! During the last forty years there have been two baby booms, and a third is currently in progress despite strict family planning regulations and the one-child policy. Maternity wards are already full to overflowing and nurses have to wash, cocoon and tend the new-born on an almost conveyor-belt system.
Wuhan, Hubei; photo by Xie Lixing

▽ In the cities, the one-child campaign has had considerable success, but this is not the case in rural areas. Now, as always, farmers feel the need to call on as many pairs of hands as possible, especially when economic reforms are rewarding the industrious. Most minority peoples are currently exempt from family planning, which in many cases runs counter to their religion.
Yinchuan, Ningxia; photo by Sunjia Linta

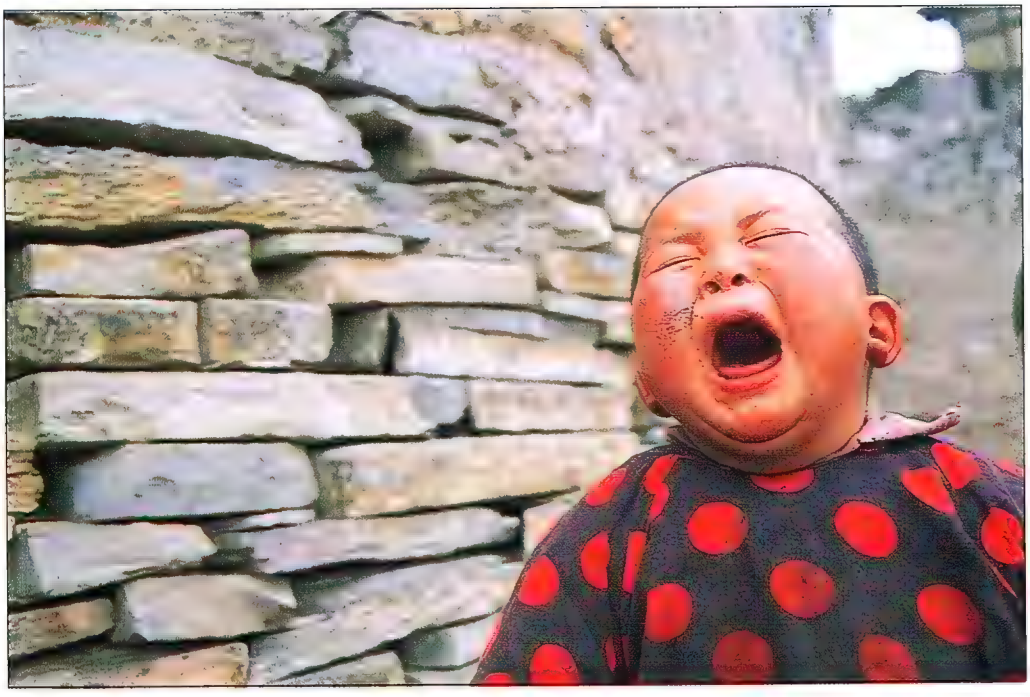
▽ These eight-month-old twin sisters are so far referred to simply as Xingxing (Star) by their parents until proper names can be found for them. Although they are girls (and the traditional Chinese wish for a son has by no means been extinguished), they will escape the lonely yet spoilt status of the only child, which is giving Chinese sociologists a lot to think about at present.
Liulin County, Shanxi; photo by Shan Xiaogang

▷ Despite the 'Little Emperor' syndrome — the spoiling which occurs when all the love, hopes and ambitions of parents and grandparents are centred on a single child — childhood inevitably brings with it physical knocks and bruises, hurt feelings and floods of tears. This young lad can console himself with the thought that, according to an old Chinese saying, 'Eighteen beautiful daughters are not worth a hunchbacked son'!
Guiyang, Guizhou; photo by Lin Jian

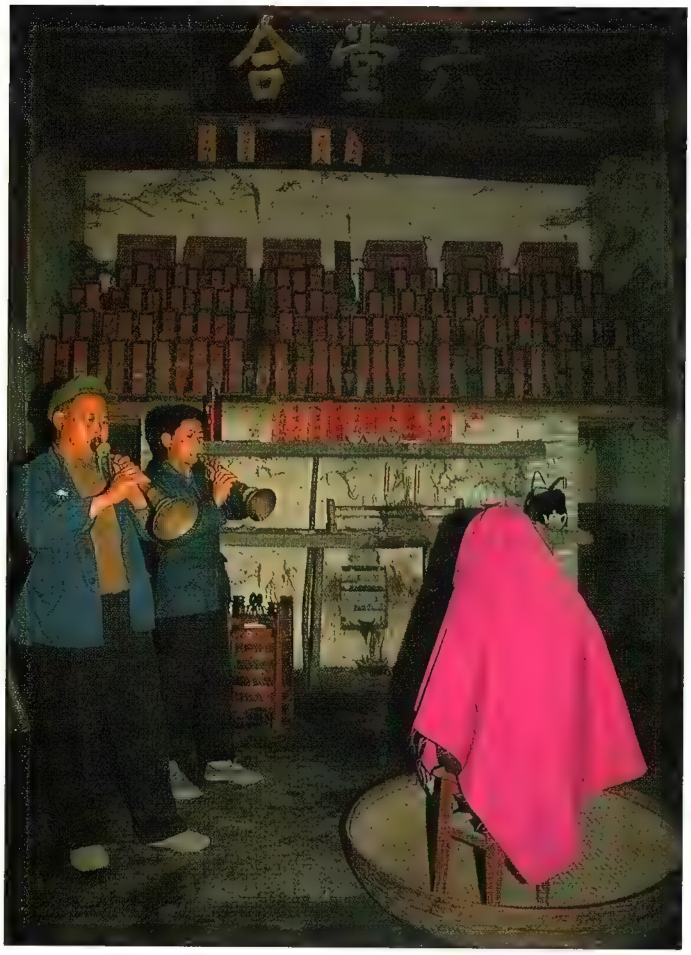


△

No sooner arrived than identified! A few minutes after birth, a nurse is already recording the baby's footprint on a file card alongside its mother's fingerprint. With such a volume of births, every care must be taken to avoid a disastrous mix-up.
Xi'an, Shaanxi; photo by Pan Ke



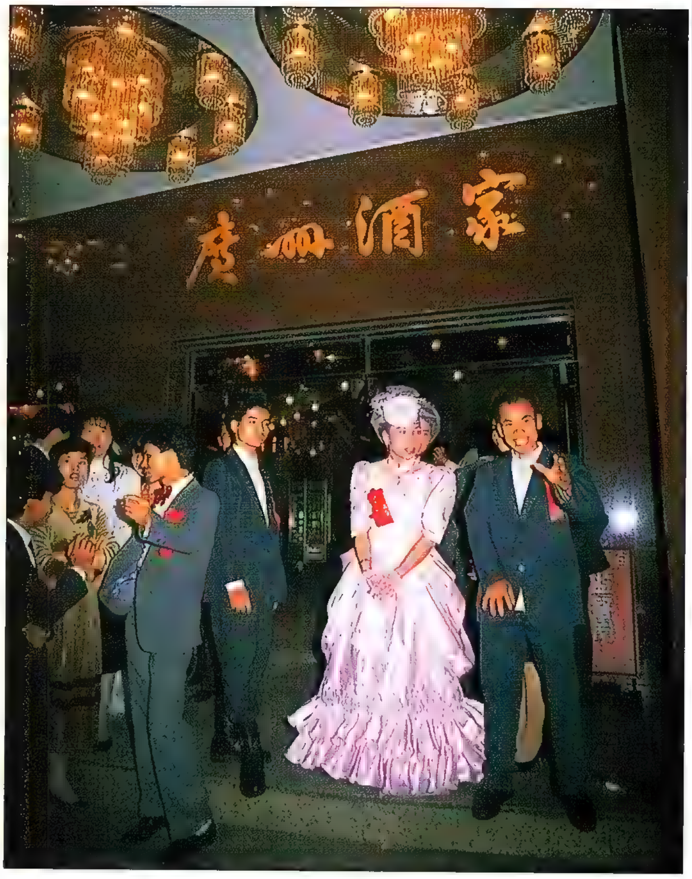
Pairing Off: The ceremonies by which a couple becomes man and wife vary widely across China



◁

In many parts of China, the old traditions are still firmly in place when it comes to such an important event as a wedding. In southern Jiangxi, having been carried to her new home in a closed sedan-chair, the bride must remain seated before the ancestral shrine for several hours, shrouded completely in a red cloth, while *suona*-players bombard her with sound. This is a test of patience and submissiveness which she must pass before she can bow before her parents-in-law. Its purpose is to impress upon the bride her duties towards her new family, especially her mother-in-law and her husband.

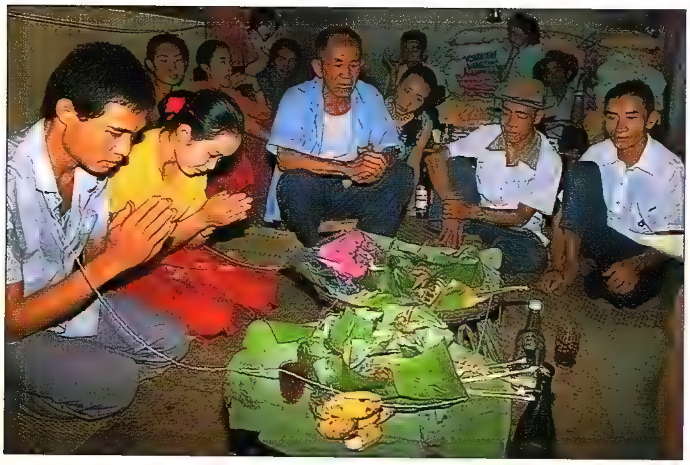
Yudu County, Jiangxi; photo by Li Qing



▷

In larger Chinese cities marriage — basically a simple administrative formality — has recovered some of its festive aura, giving a welcome excuse to don best clothes and indulge in a touch of glamour. In Guangzhou, weddings in the Western style (at least as far as the clothes are concerned) are very popular and are increasingly similar to those seen in nearby Hong Kong. Such a wedding may cost the young couple a fortune, especially when they invite all their friends and relatives to a banquet at a top-notch restaurant. And, if their work units permit it, they may even round off the celebrations with a few days' honeymoon.

Guangzhou, Guangdong; photo by Du Younong



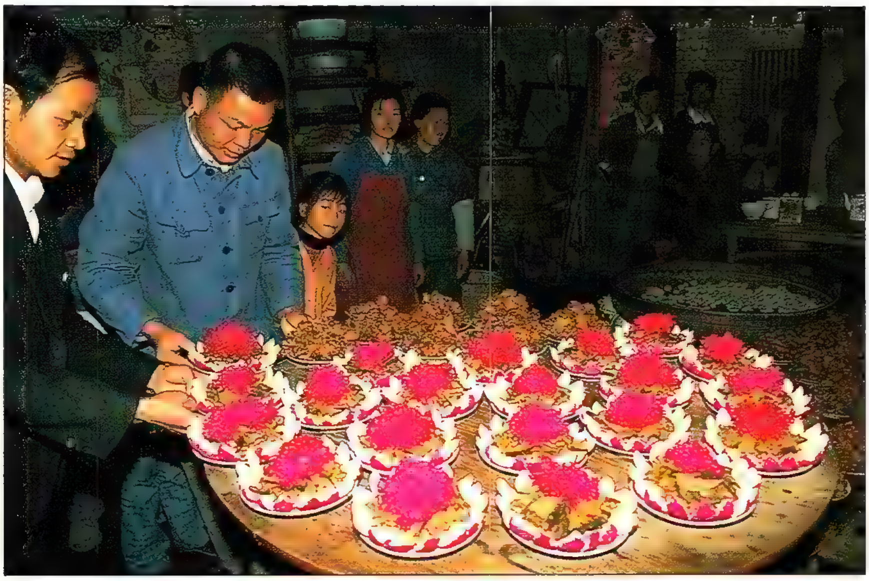
◁

'Linked by an invisible thread, even if they are a thousand *li* apart, two lovers will be forever united'; this is a saying of the Dai people, followers of Hinayana Buddhism, who are concentrated mainly in Xishuangbanna in southwestern Yunnan. A wedding among the Dai calls for a great feast which may last for several days and reaches its climax when the couple kneels before their elders to receive their blessing. The latter then link them with a white cotton thread, a symbol of closeness of hearts. The longer the thread, the better and more durable the union.

Jinghong, Yunnan; photo by Shao Yu

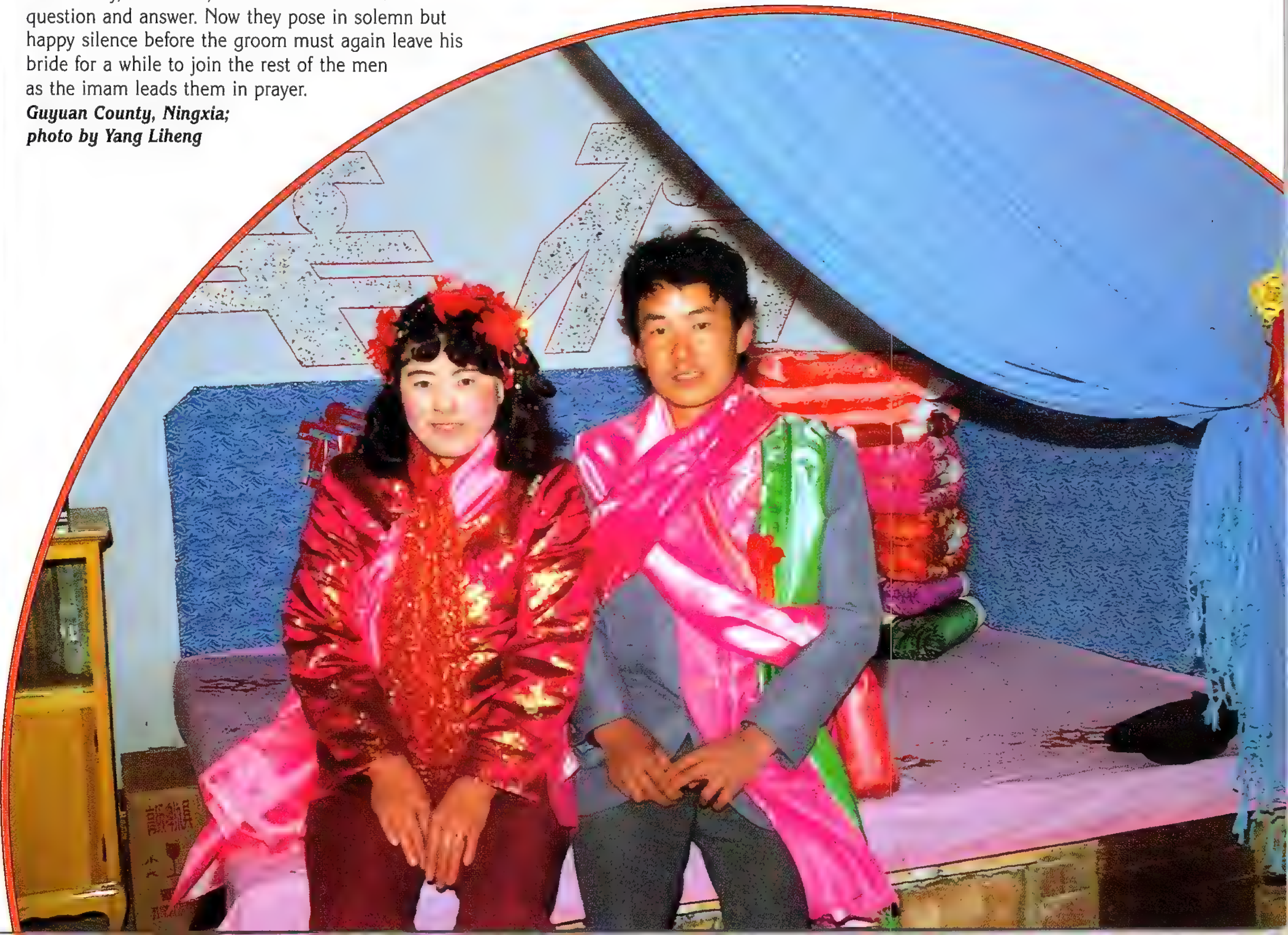
▷

Red (or pink) sets the tone for all happy Chinese festivals. Throughout history it has been seen as the life-giving colour, the colour of good fortune and bounty. In southern Jiangxi, where a wedding banquet is a sumptuous affair, every dish must contain something red to reinforce the auspicious wishes for the couple. Hard-boiled eggs, dyed pink, make an attractive border, with a froth of dyed fungus or jelly on top.
Yudu County, Jiangxi; photo by Li Qing

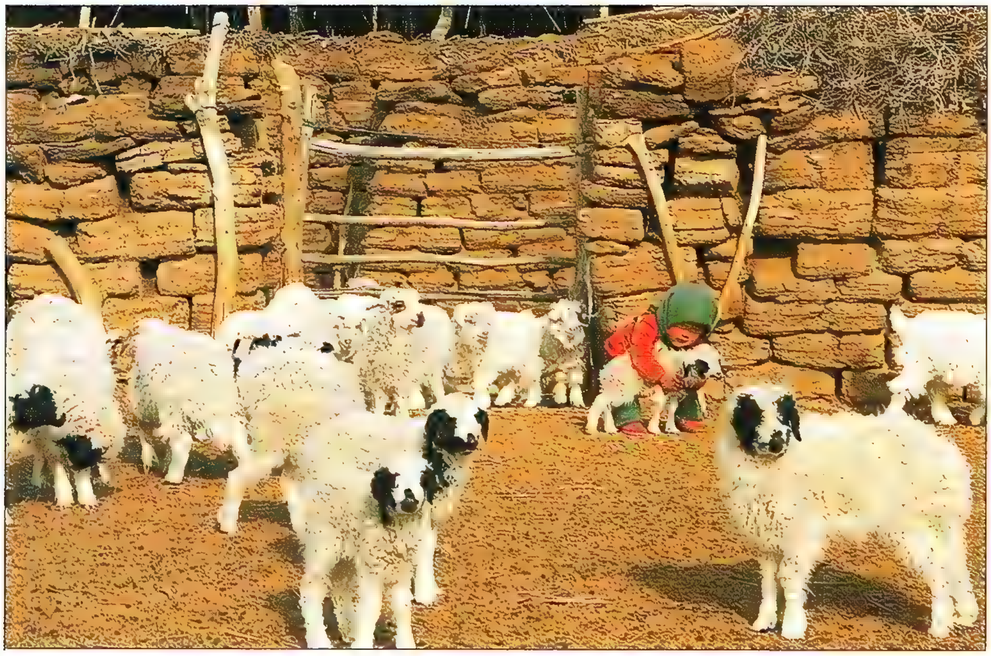


▽

The essentially civil wedding ceremony in urban Han Chinese circles is still a religious ceremony for other peoples of China, such as the Moslem Hui. This young couple from the village of Nanjiao has just been married by the religious head of their community, the imam, in a timeless ritual of question and answer. Now they pose in solemn but happy silence before the groom must again leave his bride for a while to join the rest of the men as the imam leads them in prayer.
Guyuan County, Ningxia;
photo by Yang Liheng



Togetherness: Human interactions which soften everyday life

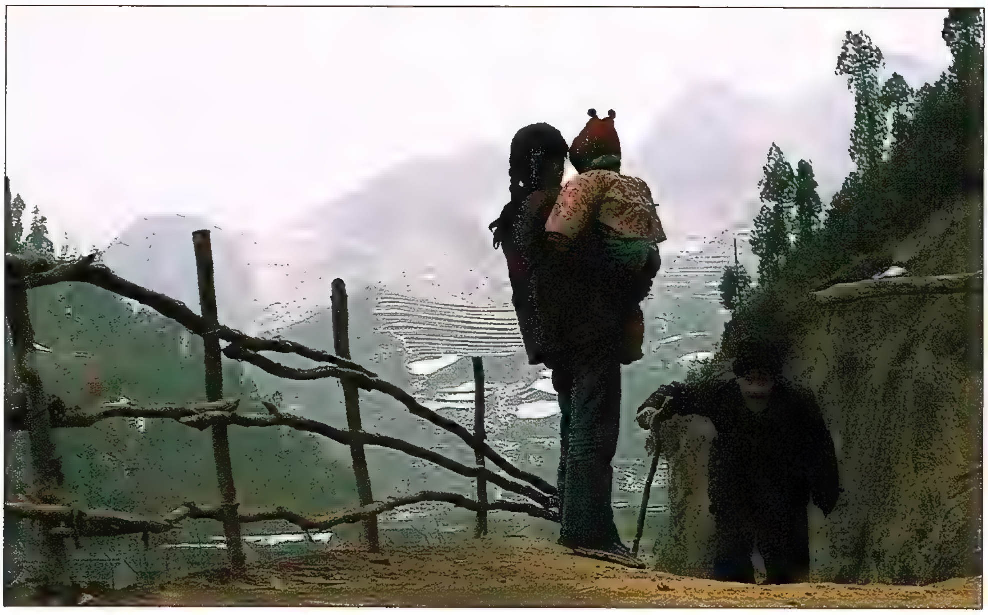


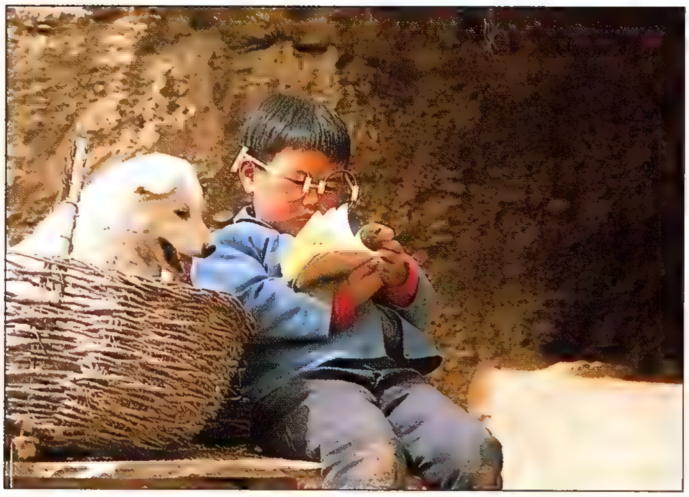
◁

This Mongolian child, the descendant of hardy shepherds of the Tengger Desert, is growing up among her family's herds and flocks — their wealth. For the time being, the soft and cuddly lambs are her beloved pets and playmates.
Alxa Left Banner, Inner Mongolia; photo by Harsbagen

▷

Life is hard on the Loess Plateau: hot and dusty in summer, freezing cold in winter when the snow lies deep on the field terraces. But family ties are still strong here. Daughter-in-law and grandchild wait patiently to give elderly legs encouragement on a particularly steep slope.
Baoji County, Shaanxi; photo by Qiu Xiaoming





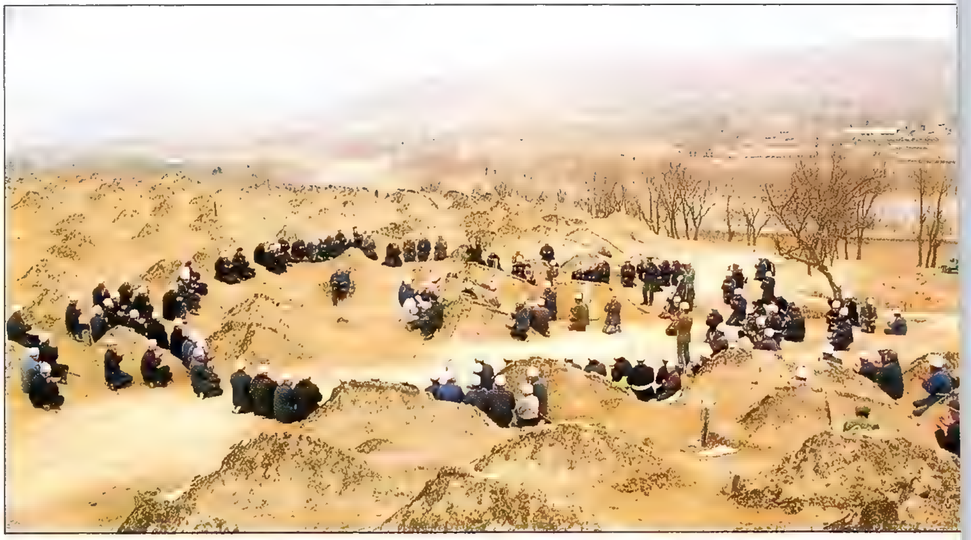
◁

Captured in a moment of studious concentration, this farmer's child — a budding intellectual? — is discovering the magic hidden between the pages of a book under the apparently interested gaze of his faithful companion.
Yan'an, Shaanxi; photo by Wang Pei

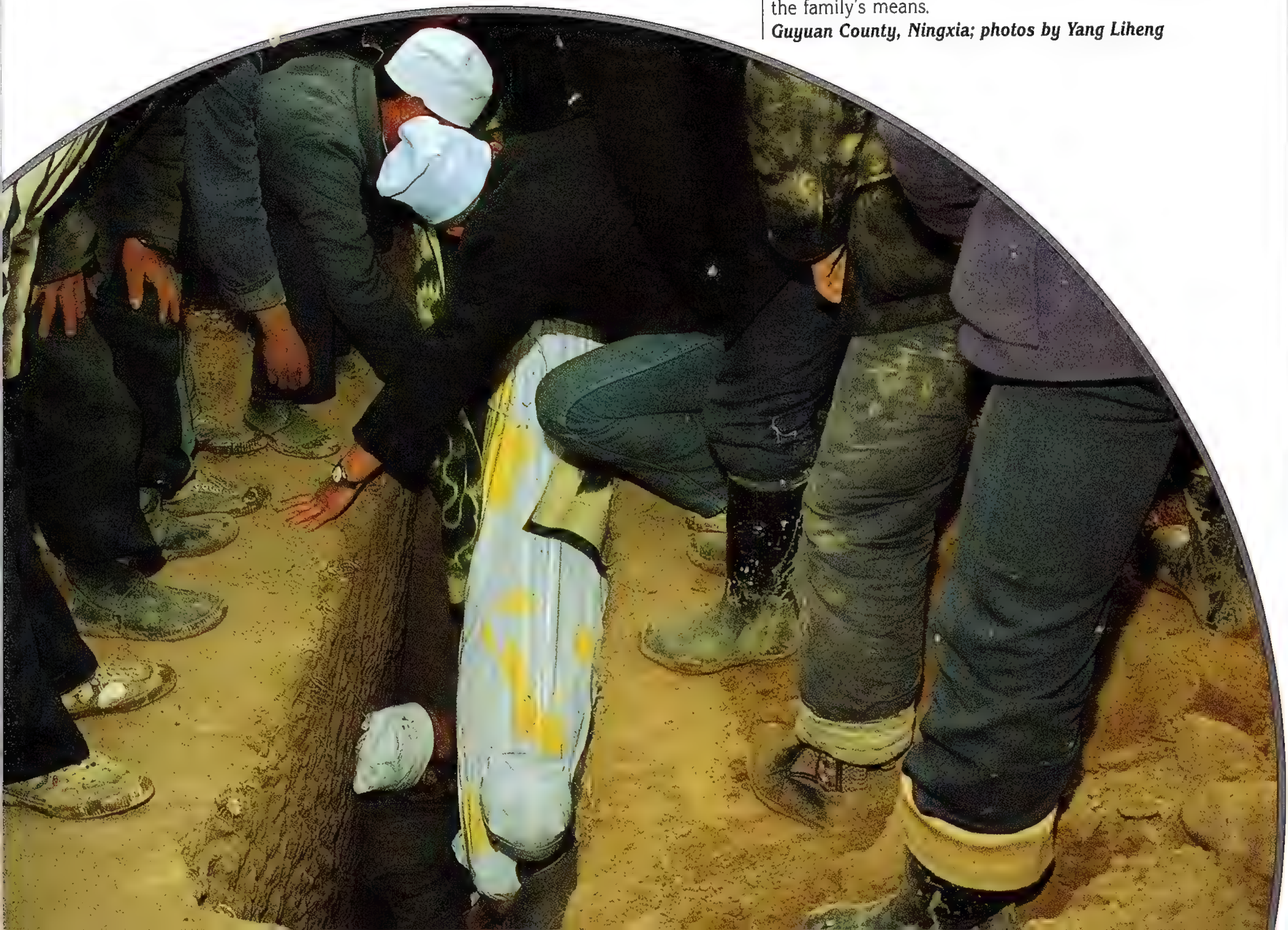
omewhere in Hong Kong's Central, a study
East-West relations! The two children
ccompanied by their nurses (status symbol
f the middle class and probably Filipinas)
resent a telling image of this city on the
outh coast of China, an international
etropolis, a centre of finance and industry,
here people from many nations
ork side by side.
ong Kong; photo by Peng Zhenge

7

the nation's capital, buses are invariably
acked and taxis are too expensive. But this
lderly Beijing couple has managed to find
way around the problem. On their
onverted trailer, shopping expeditions have
ecome a matter of stately — if slow —
rogress in comparative comfort.
eijing; photo by Gao Mingyi



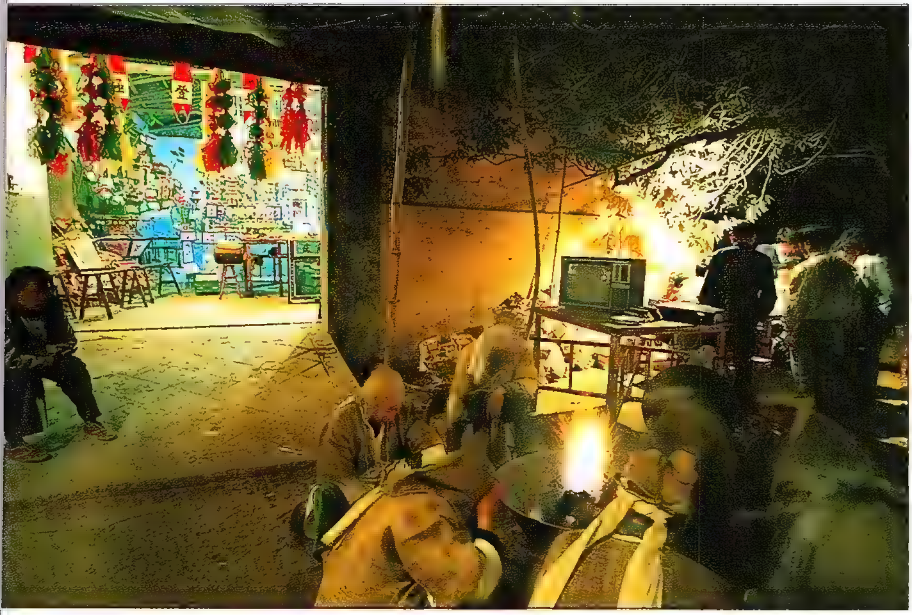
△▽ Among the Hui people, who are Moslems, burial must be carried out three days after death. At Nanjiao, all the men gather at the cemetery just outside the village to bury one of their number. The male relatives of the deceased, who have dug the deep grave themselves, lower the corpse, wrapped simply in a white shroud. Moslems do not use coffins, and the corpse must be laid with head to the north, feet to the south, and face towards the west (the direction of Mecca). The imam presides over the ceremony, saying prayers for the dead, then the grave is filled in and the earth heaped into a mound. Later a tombstone will be set up, its size depending on the family's means.
Guyuan County, Ningxia; photos by Yang Liheng

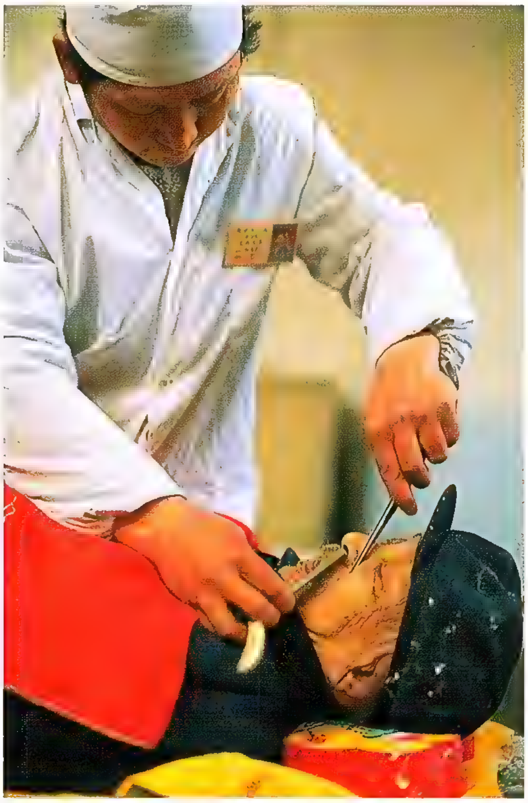


▽ In the China of old, funeral ceremonies were complex, often taking weeks to complete. Such practices have not died out entirely, although they have been modified. This Fujian family has invited monks to chant prayers to release the soul of the deceased and lead it safely to heaven, to prevent it from becoming a wandering soul, a 'hungry ghost'.

Meanwhile, members of the family in sackcloth mourning gather round the brazier outside, gazing sadly into the flames which consume the paper offerings for the deceased meant to ensure that he or she lacks for nothing in the afterlife.

Quanzhou, Fujian; photo by Chen Shizhe

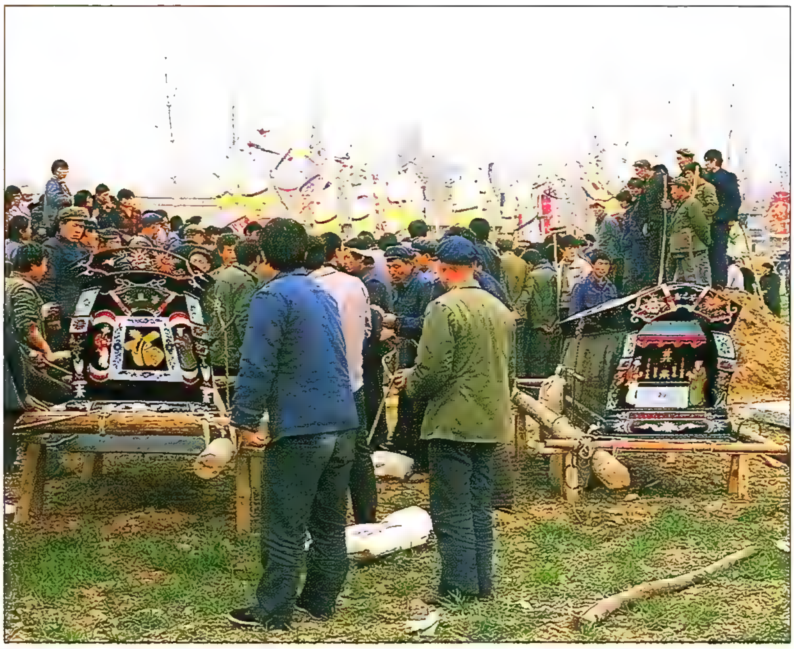




△

In large towns and cities, the size of the population and lack of space means that cremation rather than burial is the norm. At the crematorium, an undertaker skilfully shaves, trims and adds make-up to the face of the deceased before the final ceremony, which will be attended by relatives and friends. After cremation, the remains are placed in an urn and handed over to the relatives, who will deposit it with the other family urns.

Xi'an, Shaanxi; photo by Pan Ke



△▷

Burial is however still the most common form of disposing of the dead out in the country. Coffins are carved from hardwood and can be very elaborate. The funeral procession, headed by men holding fluttering yellow and white pennants, winds its way to the grave site while grieving relatives follow, dressed in the traditional white of mourning.

Zhouzhi County, Shaanxi; photos by Wu Jun

Translated by Yu Zai Xin

Aspects of Everyday Life

TEXT BY XUAN CAO

1989
三 MARCH 月
15
星期三 WEDNESDAY
己巳年二月初八
ONE DAY IN CHINA

China, as a country with an ancient civilization, is often viewed by the outside world as something of an enigma, a land of mystery. And yet, of course, for its inhabitants, there is nothing mysterious about their lives. It is just that the range of nationalities involved (fifty-six are currently officially recognized) and the sheer size of the country mean that there is an amazing and fascinating diversity of lifestyles and customs.

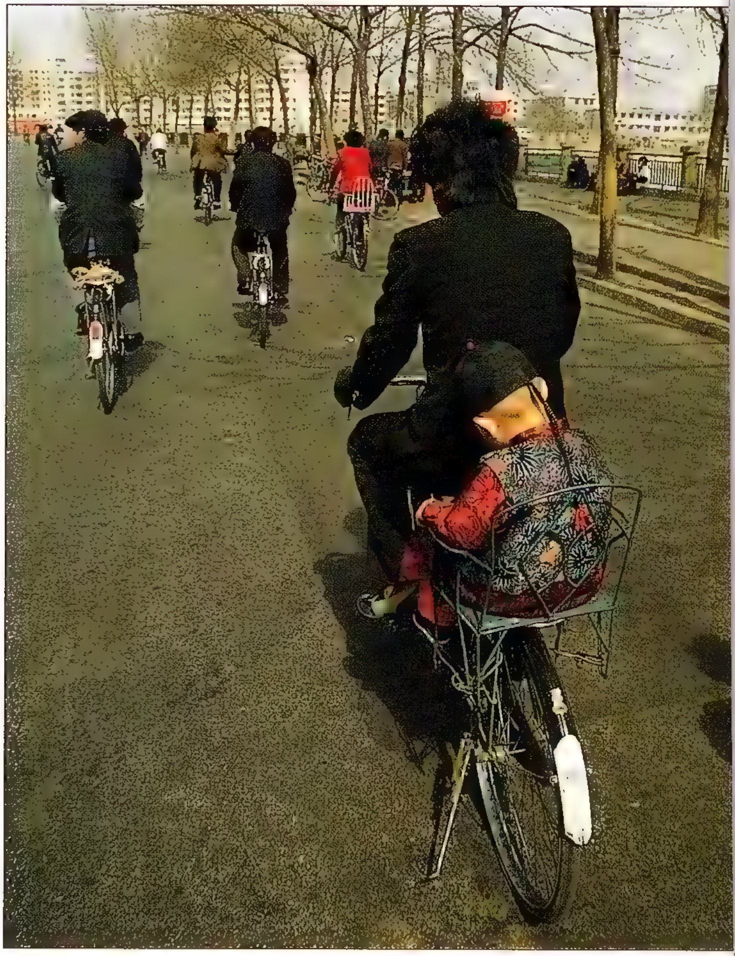
Climatic conditions and geographical characteristics also play a significant role in the variations in dress, food, homes and other aspects of living in China, as do the differing scale and speed of development in town and country.

By choosing pictures which seem to convey something 'typical' about the area in which they were taken, we coincidentally accentuate the broad range across the country.

Cooking session on the kang, *Hebei, by Shen Ying; long-distance bus in Guangzhou, Guangdong, by Du Younong; Zhuang girl of Liuzhou, Guangxi, by Liang Jiaji; farmer's house in Shantou, Guangdong, by Zhang Qun*

Dress Forms

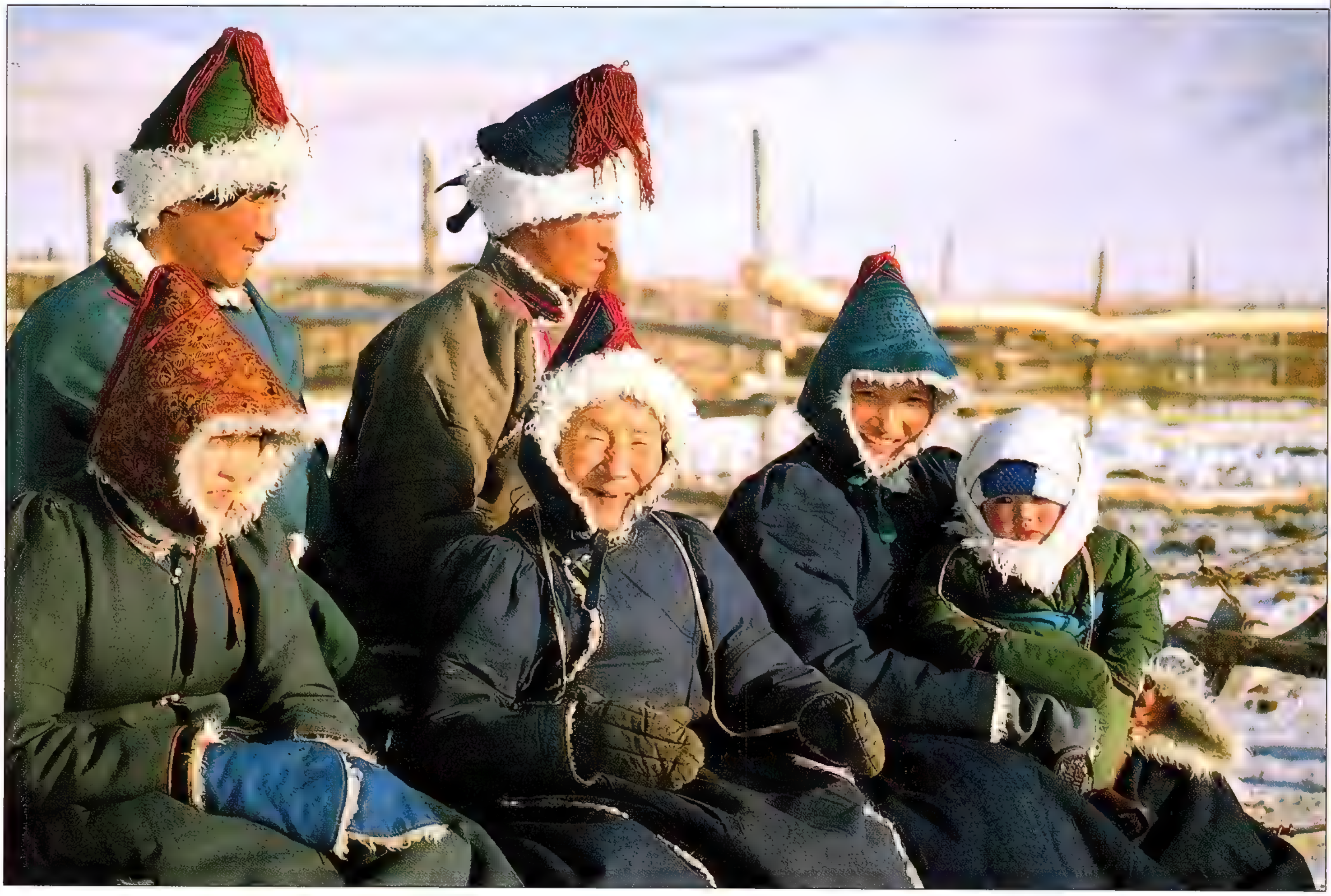
For the Han Chinese majority, or at least those of the younger generation, the sombre colours of a decade ago have given way to a new feel for colour and fashion and a more modern approach to dressing. Meanwhile, many of the minority peoples still cling to their traditional heritage in terms of fabrics, embroidery, hairstyles and jewellery, especially at festive times. Some of the greatest care and attention to detail is expended on clothing for everyone's darlings — babies and small children.



▷

Snoozing in comfort after some special event or outing with his school, this small boy is dressed up as though he were the offspring of a prosperous family of the Qing dynasty (1644-1911). The skullcap with attached false pigtail adds the finishing touch, and is his pride and joy.

Tianjin; photo by Wang Zhicheng



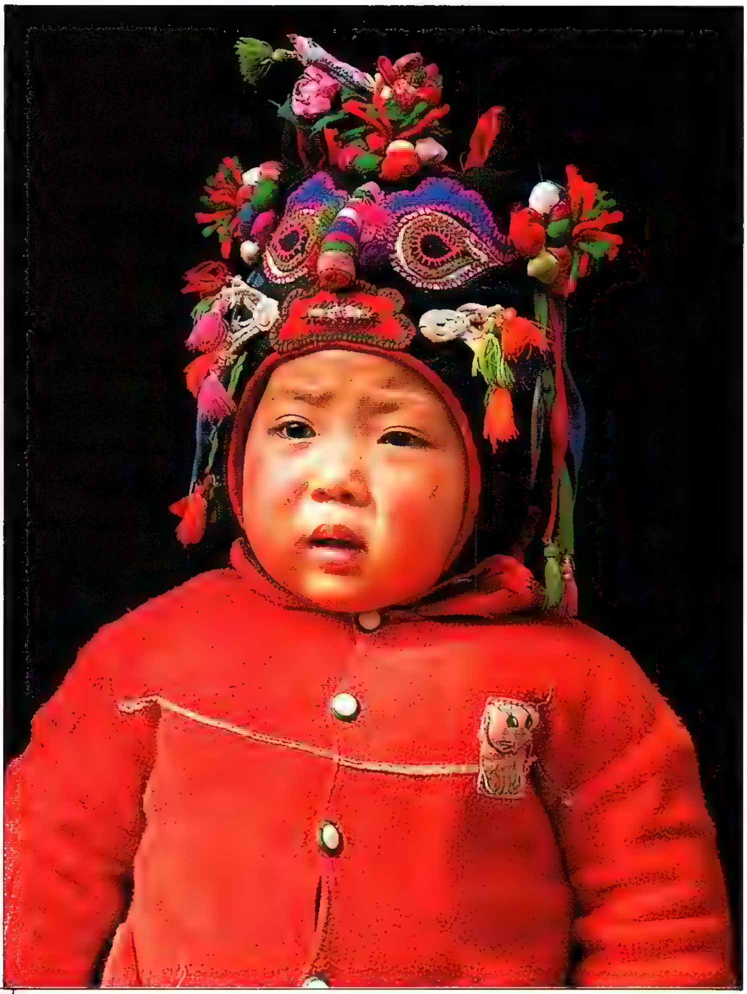
▽

Mid-March, and still no sign of spring in these northern lands of Inner Mongolia. The wind from Siberia is icy, and the family of Buryat Mongols (whose ancestors themselves moved south from Siberia only around the turn of the century) are warmly wrapped in their exceedingly fine and stylish traditional clothes.

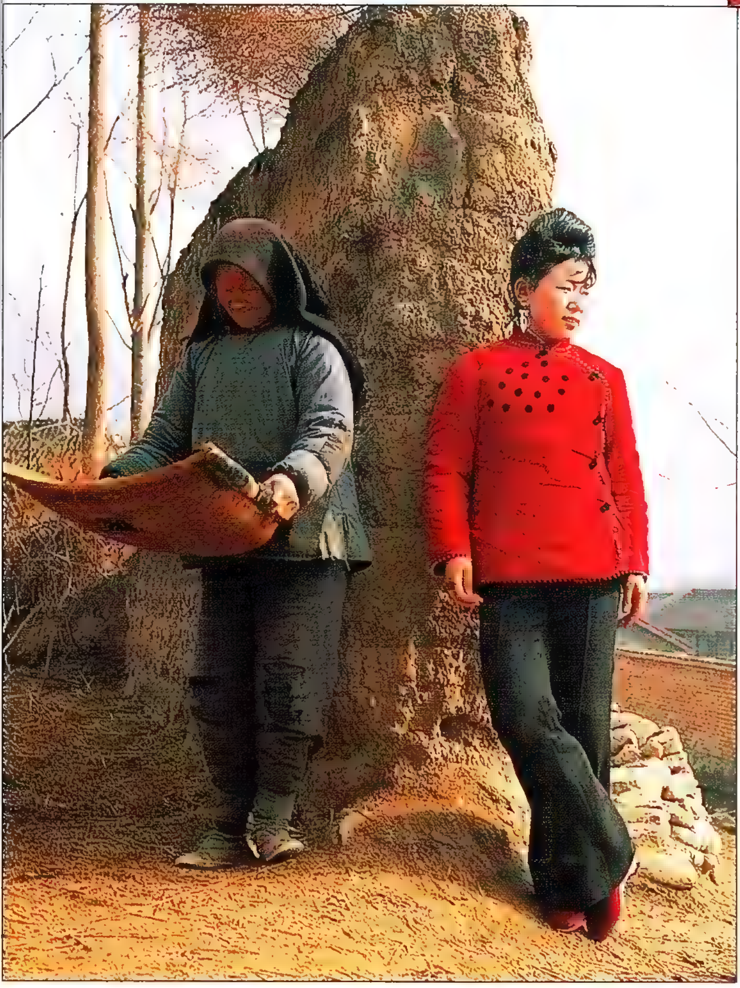
Chen Barag Banner, Inner Mongolia; photo by Daleng Guribu

▷

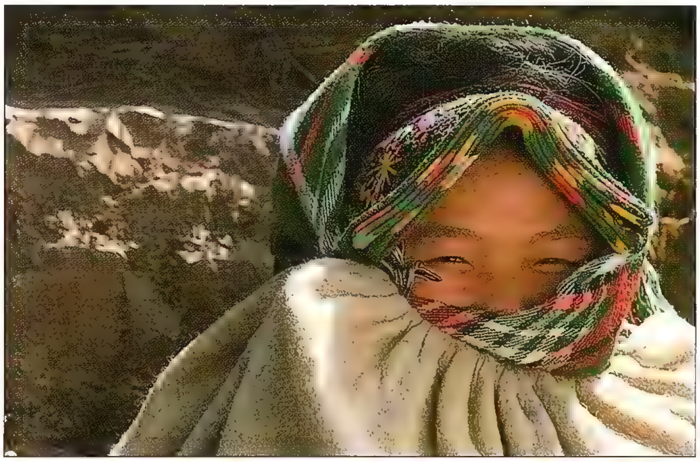
Festooned with tassels and fat, three-dimensional rosettes, the appliquéd tiger-head hats or bonnets worn by small Chinese children in many parts of the country embody their parents' heartfelt prayers for their health, strength and long life. Tigers traditionally symbolize courage and bravery and guard against demons. Particularly common in Shaanxi and Shanxi, this type of bonnet represents the full flowering of the mother's handicraft skills.
Baoji County, Shaanxi; photo by Qiu Xiaoming

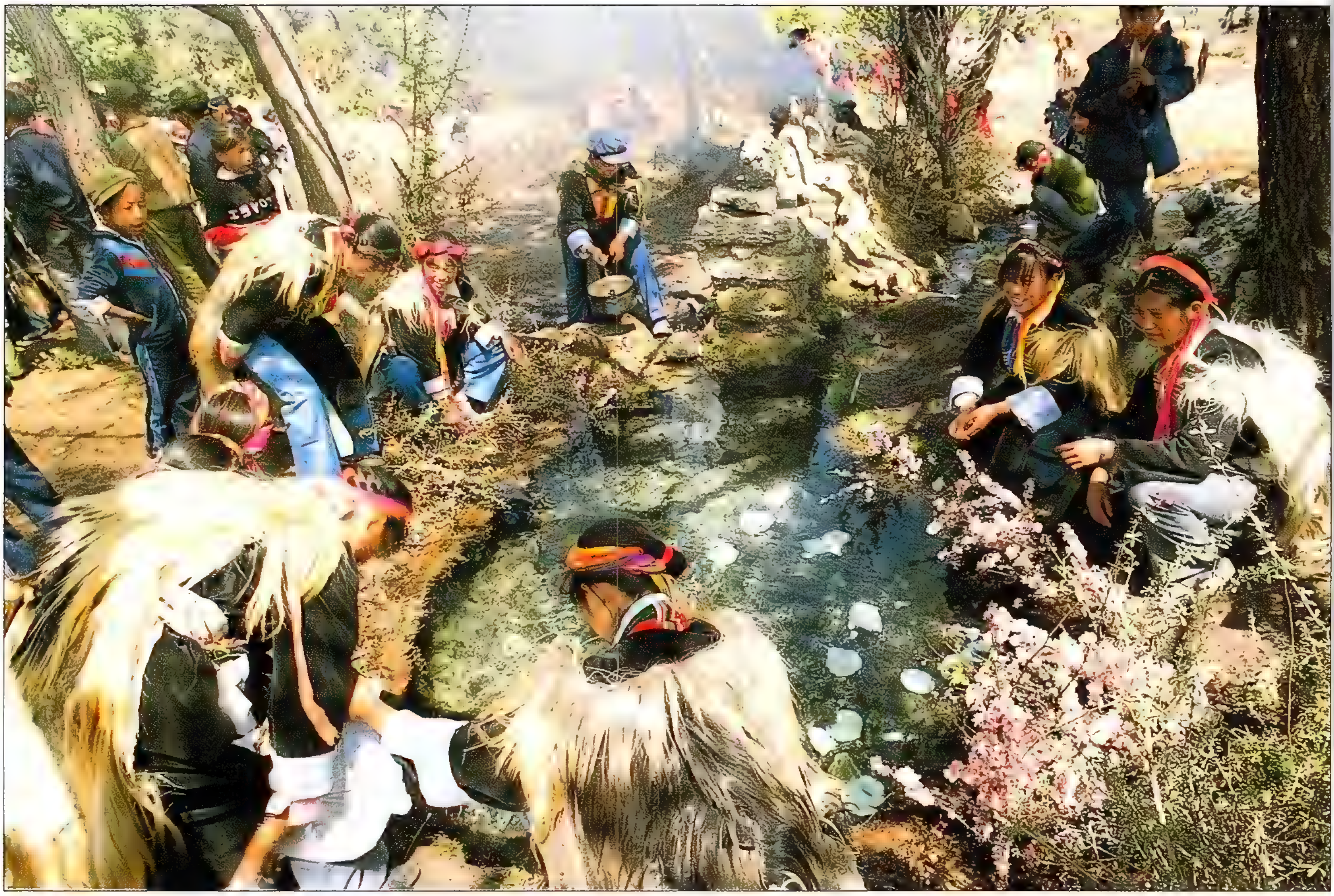


▽ Even when they live in small villages, the young endeavour to keep up with the latest trends. The young woman's outfit (a modern variation on a traditional cut) and her fancy hairstyle contrast strongly with the worn, workaday look of the older woman and seem to tell us of her yearning for a richer, more colourful and exciting way of life.
Baoji County, Shaanxi; photo by Qiu Xiaoming

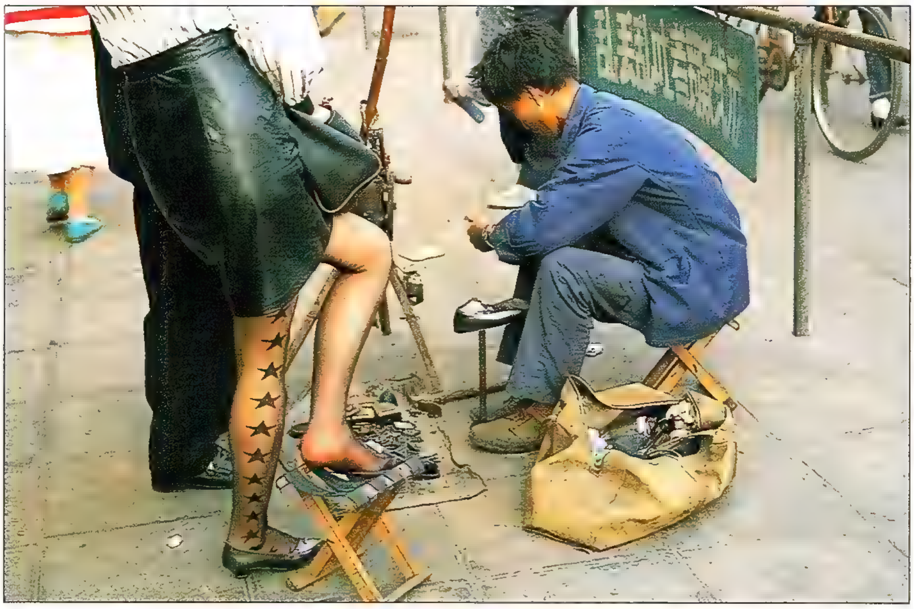


▽ This *charwa* (cape) of thick felt may shield her from the bitter winds howling through the Liangshan Mountains, but it cannot conceal her twinkling friendliness. Yi people of both sexes are never without this useful garment, which not only protects them from wind and rain, but can also double as a sleeping bag if necessary.
Ganluo County, Sichuan; photo by Zhong Dakun

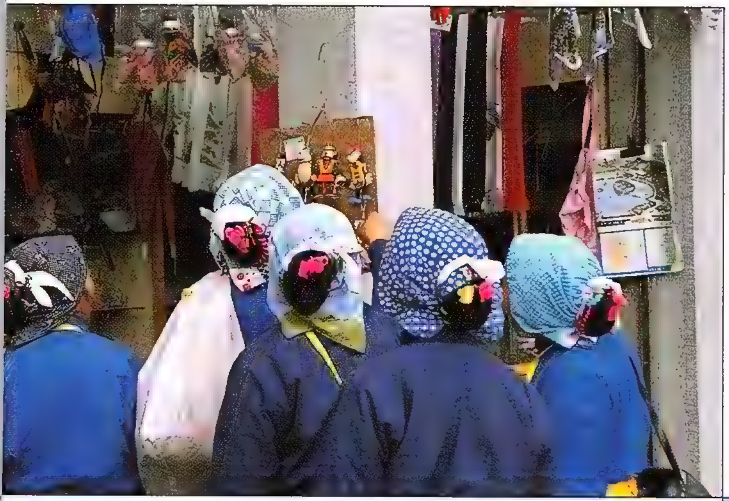




△ The Naxi women are all dressed up for their Eryueba Festival, which falls on the eighth day of the second lunar month, hence its name. Colourful strands of wool in their hair and goatskin capes on their backs, they check their appearance as reflected in the clear waters of the brook.
Zhongdian, Yunnan; photo by Luo Jinhui



△ This photo says it all about Guangzhou's reputation as *the* trendsetter for the Chinese fashion world. The young lady waiting as her shoes are mended is perfectly coordinated from top to toe and dressed for the warm spring weather of the south. Such street glamour is, however, still a rare sight elsewhere in China.
Guangzhou, Guangdong; photo by Du Younong

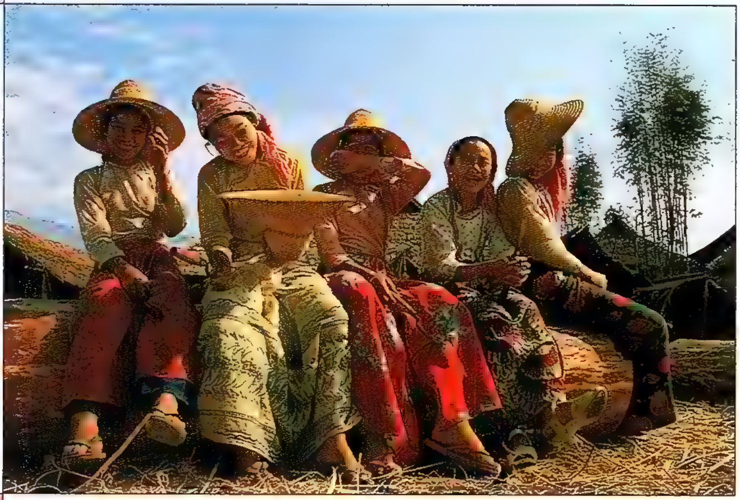


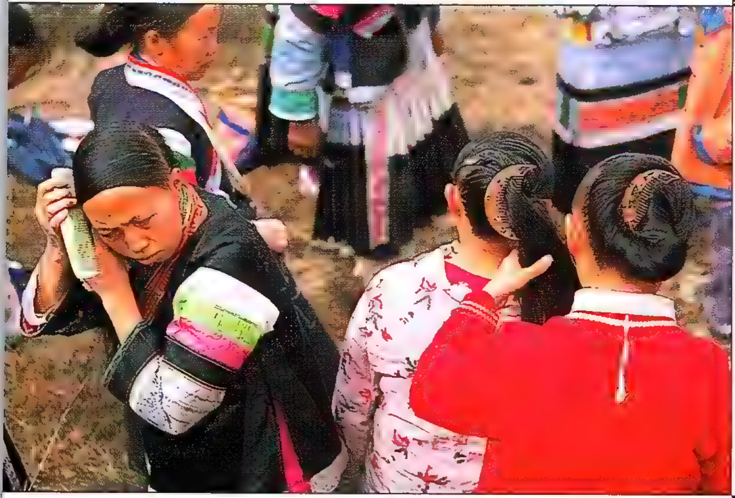
◁

Country women, farmers' wives, venture into the city centre to combine worship at Hangzhou's temples with a little judicious shopping. Their attire is typical of rural areas of Zhejiang and neighbouring Jiangsu: bright blue clothes and headscarves tied in a special manner around the decorated bun. But it is the yellow belt which marks them out as Buddhist pilgrims.
Hangzhou, Zhejiang; photo by Ren Jing

▷

Perpetual summer reigns in subtropical Xishuangbanna in southwestern Yunnan, and Dai girls need to wear straw hats over their headscarves to ward off the heat. The Dai people, who are related to the Thais of Thailand, wear the graceful and comfortable sarong year-round.
Xishuangbanna, Yunnan; photo by Wang Yizhong





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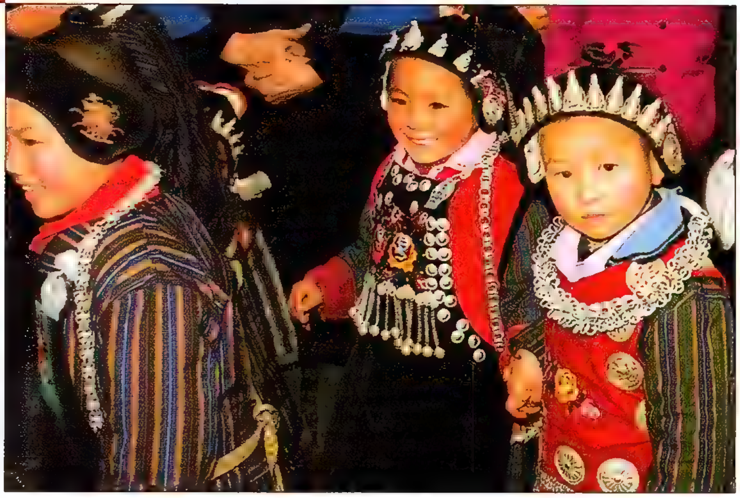
It is time for one of the biggest celebrations of the year for the Miao people of northwestern Guizhou — the Tiaohuapo (Flower Dance) Festival. Married or unmarried, the womenfolk are all intent on making themselves as attractive as possible, and the size of their coiled hair-do is one of the aspects they consider a criterion of beauty.
Nayong County, Guizhou; photo by Huang Chengde

▷

Meanwhile, in the village of Qingman in southeastern Guizhou, another branch of Miao is celebrating its Tiaomugu (Wooden Drum Dance) Festival. Children parade in festive attire rich with silverwork and embroidery. The silver 'tiara' of many small Buddhas is intended to protect them from all harm and to call down blessings on this joyous occasion.
Kaili, Guizhou; photo by He Huaibo



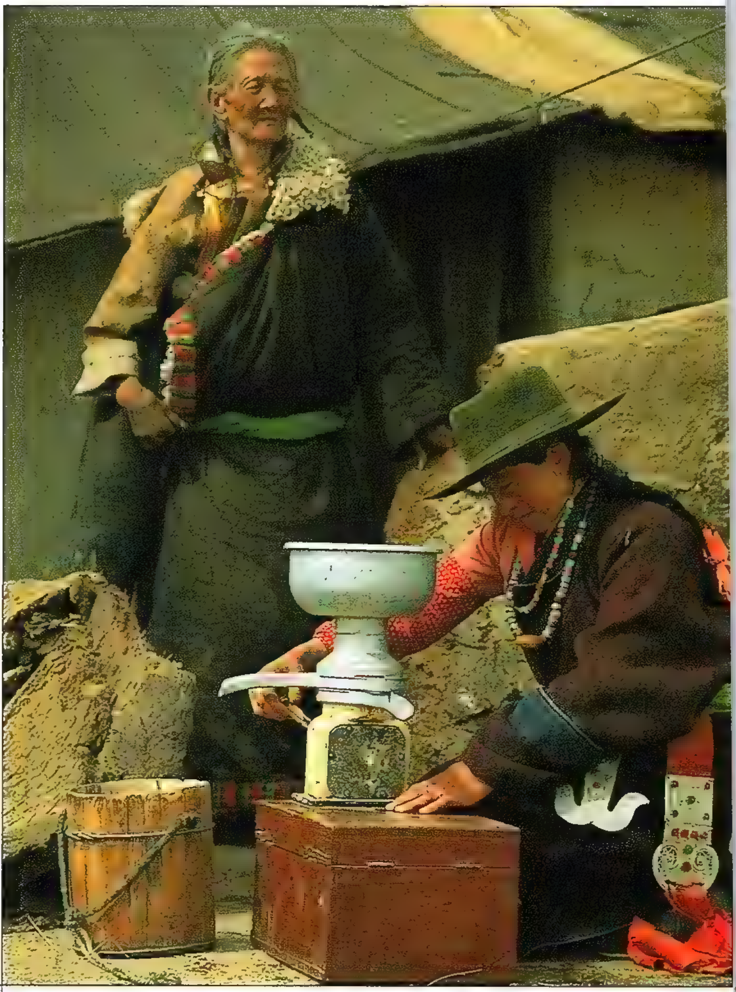
Eating and Drinking

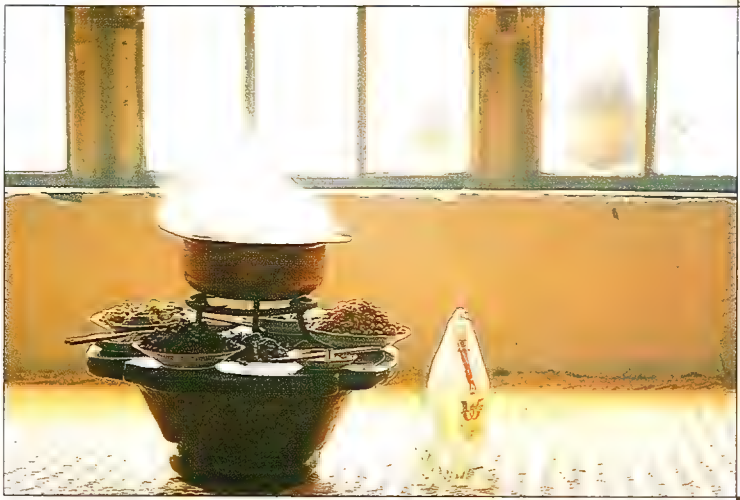
China's culinary achievements over the centuries are legendary. Here again regional differences are obvious, perhaps the major divide being that between the rice-eaters of the south and the wheat-eat

hat is, bread and noodle-eaters) of the north. Chinese cooking styles are often sub-divided into those of Beijing and Shandong, Guangdong, hanghai and Sichuan, but ordinary people tend to eat simply except on special occasions, when feasts and banquets are the order of the day.

Previous page:
A group of Uygur women, guests at a wedding, enjoy the traditional festive delights. These particular women are identified as married by the small brocade cap pinned to their veil. The Uygur are Moslems, and men and women normally eat separately on such occasions. The dish before them consists of rice with mutton and turnips and is eaten with the right hand, Arab-style.
Yutian County, Xinjiang; photo by Han Lianyun

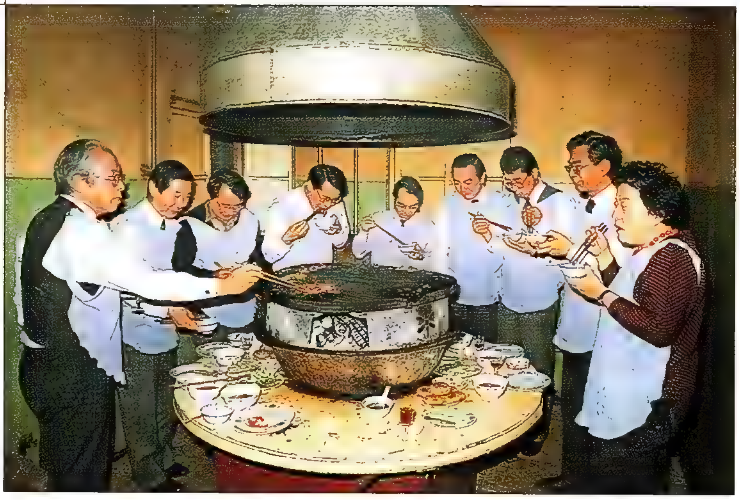
▷
On the Tibet-Qinghai Plateau, the weather can switch between all four seasons within the space of twenty-four hours. Living at over 3,000 metres above sea-level, Tibetans need food with a high calorific value, and one of their dietary staples is butter. This woman is making butter from goat's milk by separating the curds from the whey. She will use the result not just in butter tea, but as a cream to rub on her face and protect it from the drying winds.
Lake Qinghai, Qinghai; photo by Zuo Yi

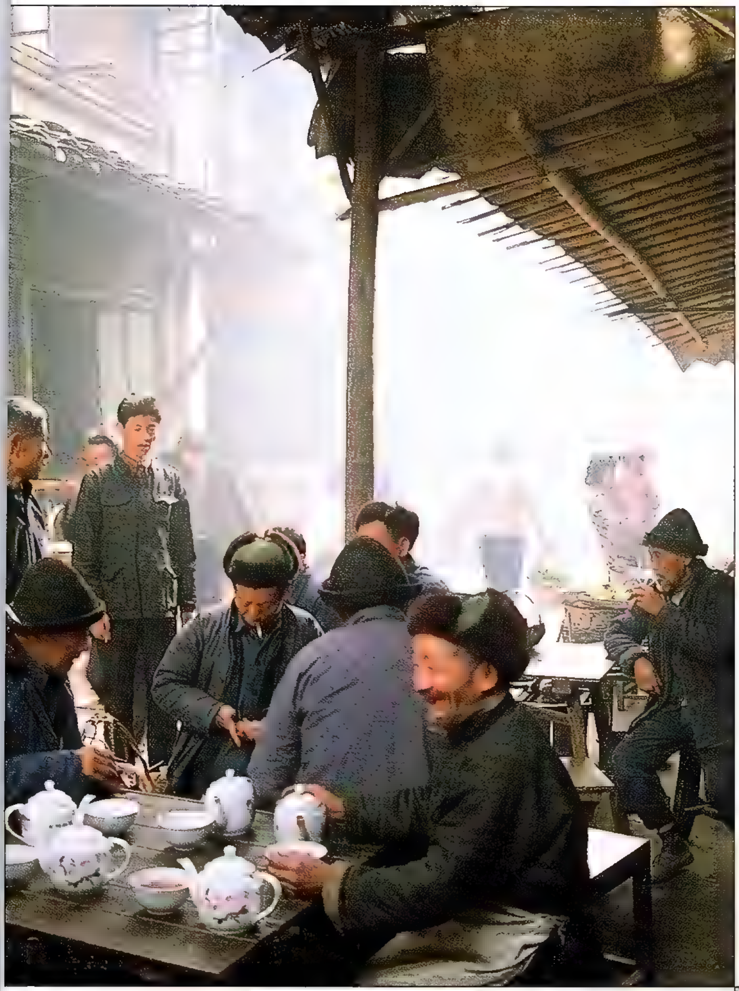




◁
The earthenware pot of the Manchus set on the *kang* is heated by charcoal. All the ingredients for the hot pot stand ready around the rim — a tempting prospect at this time of year.
Xiuyan County, Liaoning; photo by Zhu Gongfu

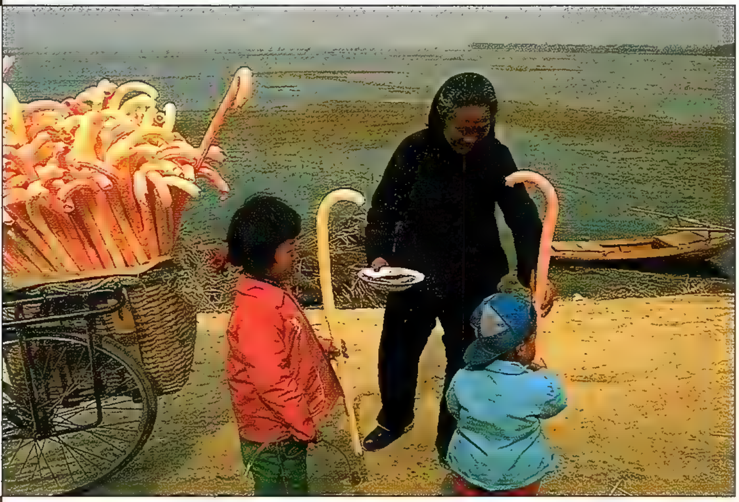
▷
Another cold-weather favourite is barbecued mutton, originally a nomad dish from the northern steppes but now offered by many Beijing restaurants. The iron grid is heated from below by burning wood, and the mutton is pre-sliced very thinly so that it cooks rapidly once it is exposed to the heat. Tender and juicy, it is best eaten with pastries sprinkled with sesame and spring onions.
Beijing; photo by Elihen

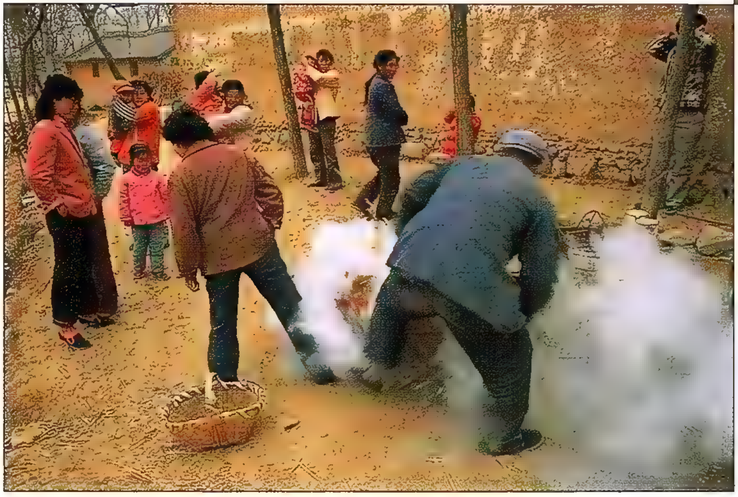




◁
Almost as soon as it is light, regulars gather at this streetside teahouse for a friendly gossip and to crack a joke or two. This has become part of their daily ritual, and there must be many worse ways to start the day than with a pot of tea and a few dishes of snacks such as boiled broad beans and dried beancurd.
Shaoxing, Zhejiang; photo by Chen Xiao

▷
Banana or strawberry flavoured, what shall it be? Hollow sugar sticks as big as real walking sticks are beloved by the local children. Apart from being deliciously crunchy, they make great props for a game of shepherds!
Baiyangdian, Renqiu, Hebei; photo by Shen Ying



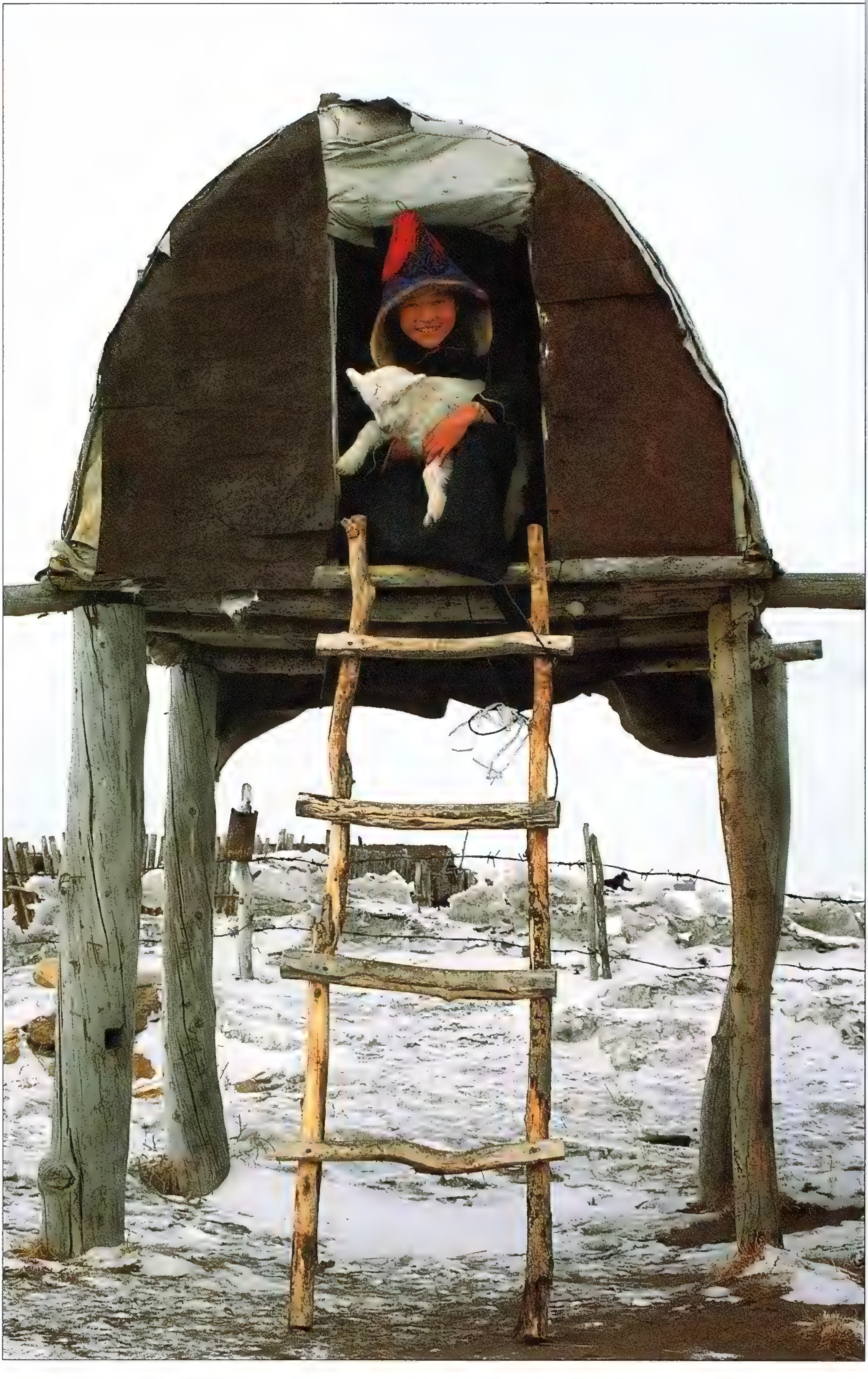


◁
The popcorn vendor is on his rounds, and the villagers gather to watch the free show. With one hand he operates the bellows to keep his fire going while, with the other, he shakes the iron receptacle in which the corn is being heated. A short while later, he holds a sack to the mouth of the receptacle and — pop! — the swollen corn shoots out like bullets from a gun. The children's ears are covered in happy anticipation of the next explosion, which should come any minute now....
Baoji County, Shaanxi; photo by Shi Baoxiu

The Chinese Home

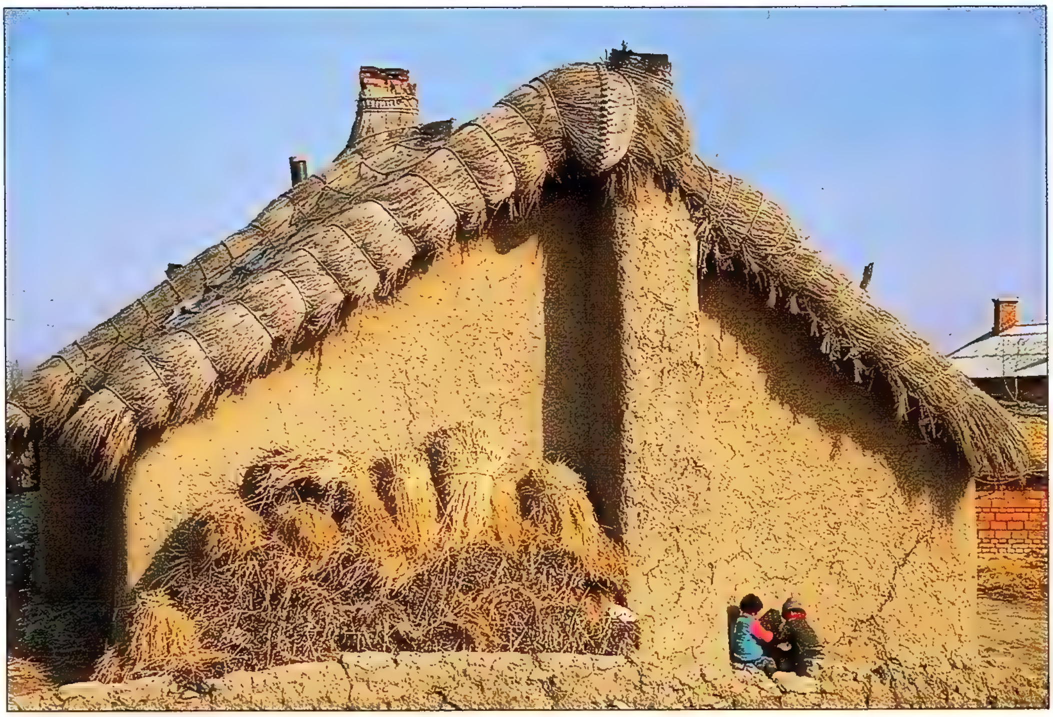
Although functional 'modern' buildings are springing up all over China's towns and cities, its regional domestic architecture — the result of developments over many centuries on the basis of locally available materials and local climatic conditions — is one of China's unsung cultural treasures and an important part of its heritage.

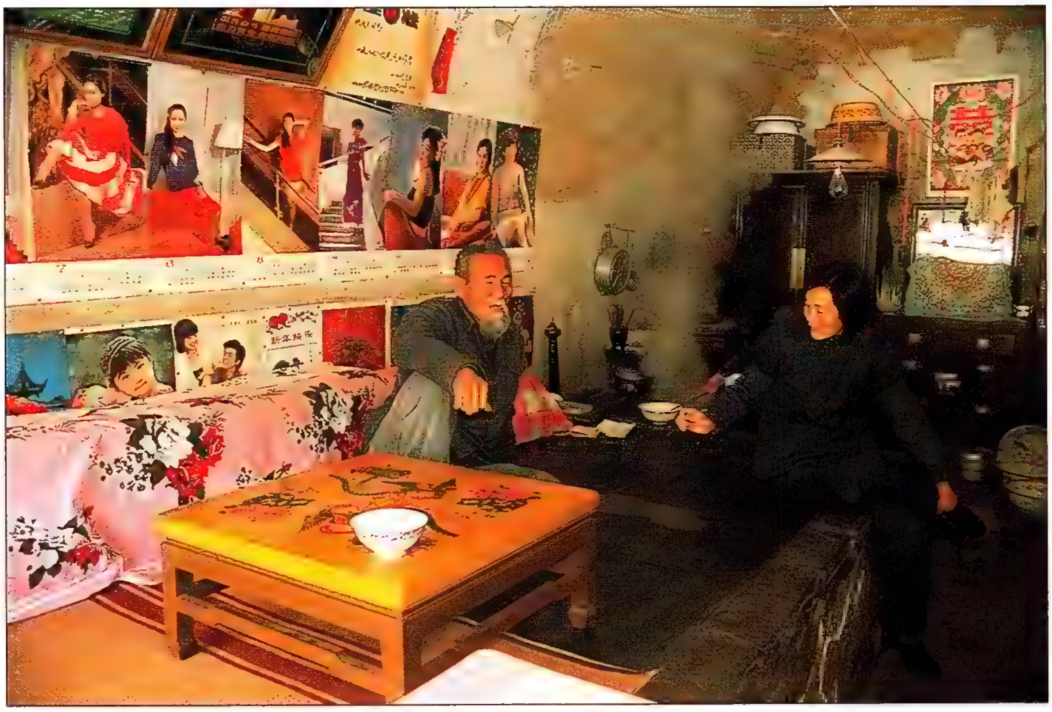
In the city, few homes are privately owned and small flats or units are the norm, although rents are also kept very low. Still, for the average young Chinese couple, it is already an achievement to have living space just for themselves.



▷ Shaped like a miniature Nissen hut hoisted high on four wooden posts, this is actually a hide tent. Although the Buryat Mongols normally live in houses of brick or mud and wood, with yurts now less common, such huts are meant as emergency shelter for themselves and some of their animals in particularly heavy snowfalls.
Hulun Buir Grassland, Inner Mongolia; photo by Bai Junjiang

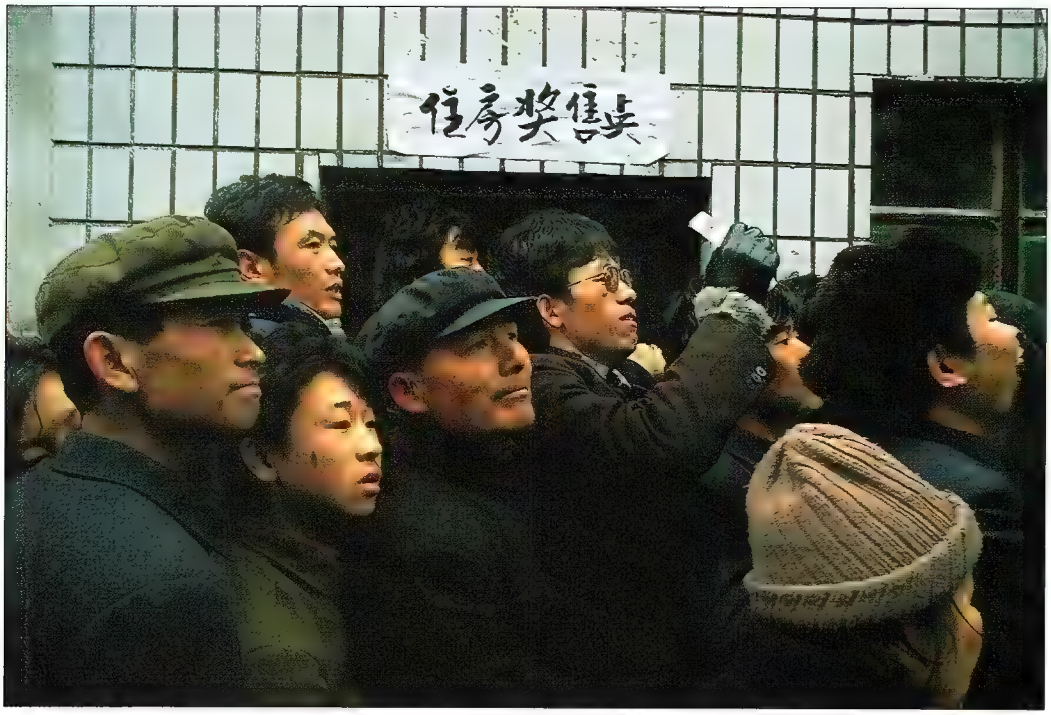
▽ The classical adobe (clay mixed with straw) house with a thick, well-finished thatch roof is a good insulator whatever the weather, cool in summer and warm in winter. The walls retain the gentle warmth of early spring, making a favourite place for the children's games.
Acheng, Heilongjiang; photo by Ma Yixing

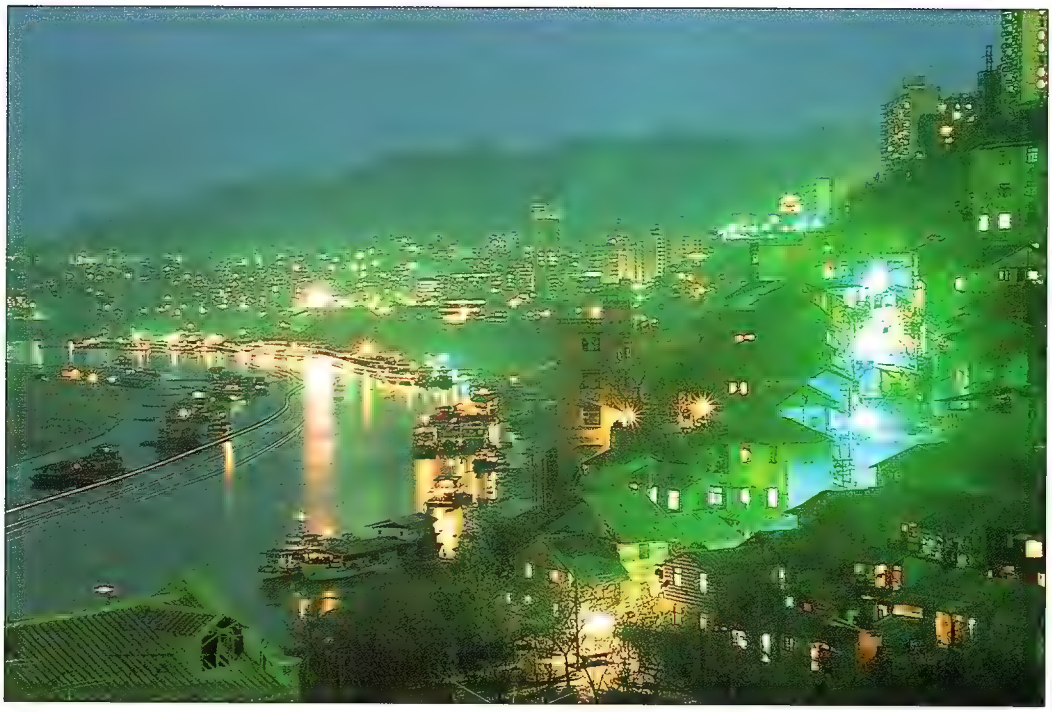




△ This cave-dwelling on the Loess Plateau is equipped with electricity and has a sizeable *kang* (heated brick bed) which forms the focus for all domestic activities. Such homes may be completely underground or excavated from a loess cliff, as in this case, with some natural light entering through the small window. Excellently insulated by the loess soil from climatic extremes, this type of home is durable and snug. It is estimated that cave-dwellings currently provide shelter for around forty million people in parts of Shaanxi, Shanxi, Gansu and Henan.
Liulin, Shanxi; photo by Shan Xiaogang

▽ Hopeful faces in the long queue outside the Municipal Construction Bank show that this method of encouraging people to deposit their savings is definitely working. The lure is no less than the possibility of winning a flat of their own, should the coupon they are given on opening an interest-bearing account prove to bear the winning number.
Urümqi, Xinjiang; photo by Sun Jiabin

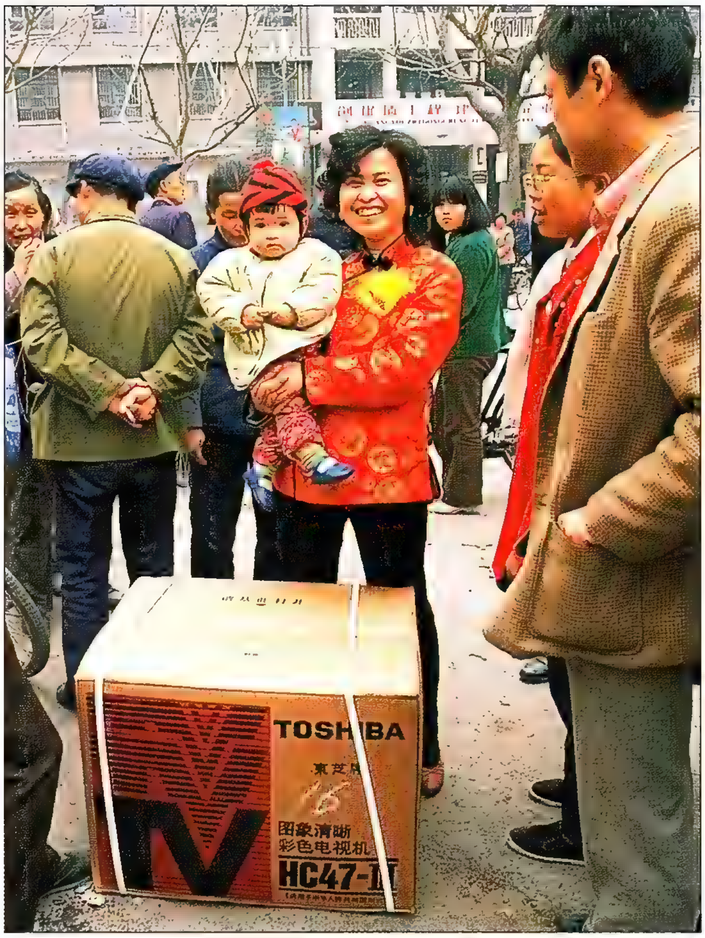


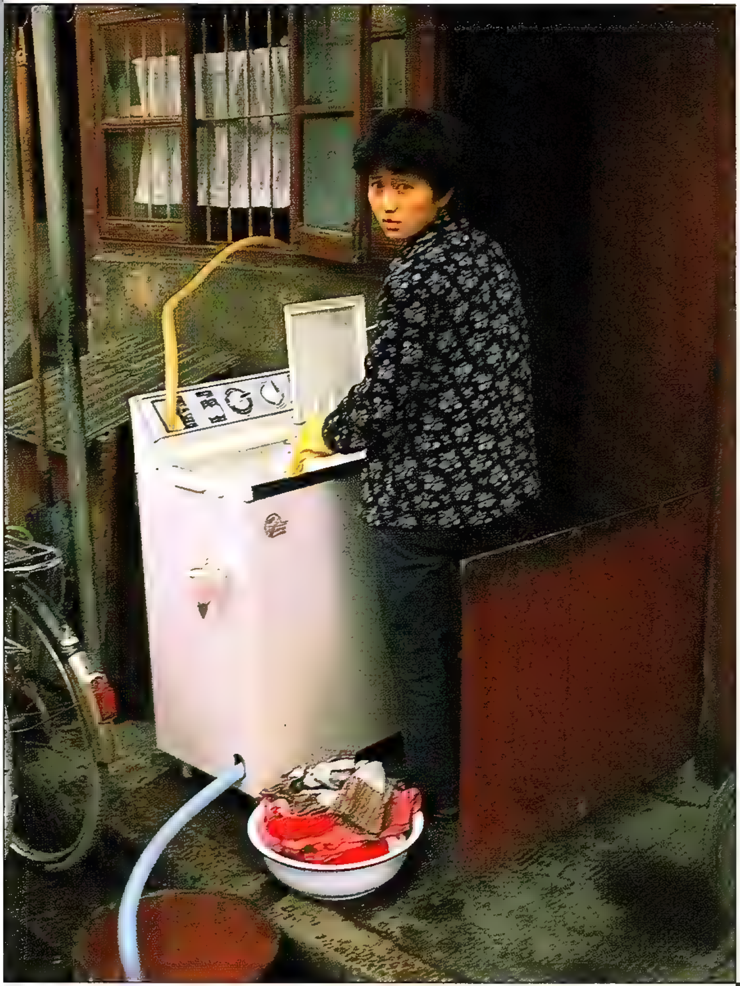


△ Modern and old buildings line the steep roads and staircases leading up to Chongqing's centre. Lights are reflected in the curve of the Yangtse, where the river traffic knows no let-up. Chongqing is the largest city in Sichuan, with an urban population of around six million.
Chongqing, Sichuan; photo by Su Yang

▷

Jubilation! This family has just purchased its very first Japanese-made colour television. No longer will they have to call on luckier neighbours to watch their favourite programmes.... Nowadays colour TVs are more than status symbols in China, they are felt to be a minimum requirement, and unhappy is the bridegroom who cannot provide one for his wife-to-be when he sets up his own household.
Xi'an, Shaanxi; photo by Hou Dengke


TOSHIBA
图象清晰
彩色电视机
HC47-1

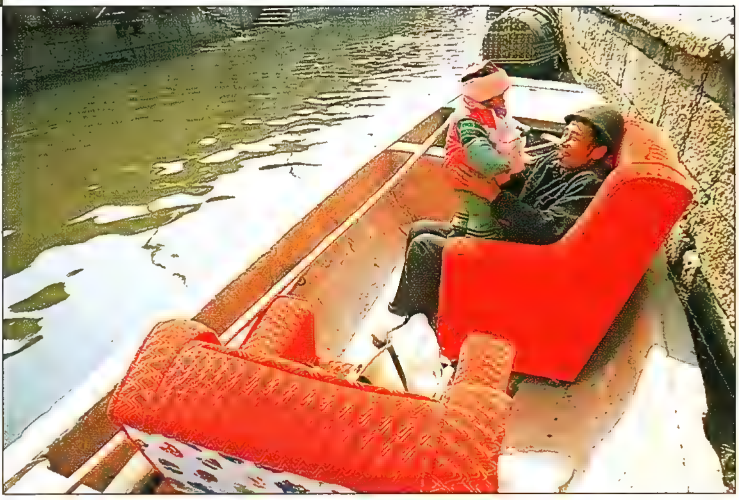


◁

The new washing machine has lightened the housewife's load considerably. Before, it could take her half a day to do the family's washing, since she had to scrub, rinse and wring out the lot by hand. As most women — or at least the younger ones — are employed full-time and household chores are still all too often seen as 'women's work', any help is greatly appreciated.
Shanghai; photo by Yang Kelin

▷

The purchases are safely on board, and the proud owner can relax while he waits for the rest of the family to return from their shopping expedition in town. He can hardly wait to see his neighbours' faces when they try out his padded, comfortable, Western-style armchairs — surely he'll become the talk of the village! Growing prosperity brings increased aspirations, even in remote rural areas.
Shaoxing, Zhejiang; photo by Chen Xiao



On the Move

The logistics of moving a nation of over one billion people around are mind-numbing. Trains, ships, river ferries and long-distance buses remain the favoured means of transport for ordinary Chinese people over longer stretches, while — in and around town — the ubiquitous bicycle as well as buses and trams are still far more important than the private car. In rural and mountain areas, of course, the only option may well be to ride an animal or trust to one's own legs!

▷

Under precariously balanced loads of dozens of bottles of beer for thirsty throats, a string of porters scales the last few steps to the buildings on top of Taishan, one of China's most sacred pilgrimage mountains. This is nothing out of the ordinary for them; they are used to carrying loads of over forty kilos on their backs up the mountain which surges from the plains to 1,524 metres above sea-level just north of Tai'an.
Taishan, Shandong; photo by Zeng Yi

▽

Powerful steam engines draw out of the station, transporting vast quantities of timber, the natural riches of China's northeast. Although more and more of the national railway network — totalling over 53,000 kilometres — is being electrified, the percentage so far is small and the 'steam age' is by no means over in China: a fact which attracts train enthusiasts from all over the world.
Yichun, Heilongjiang; photo by Zheng Ye

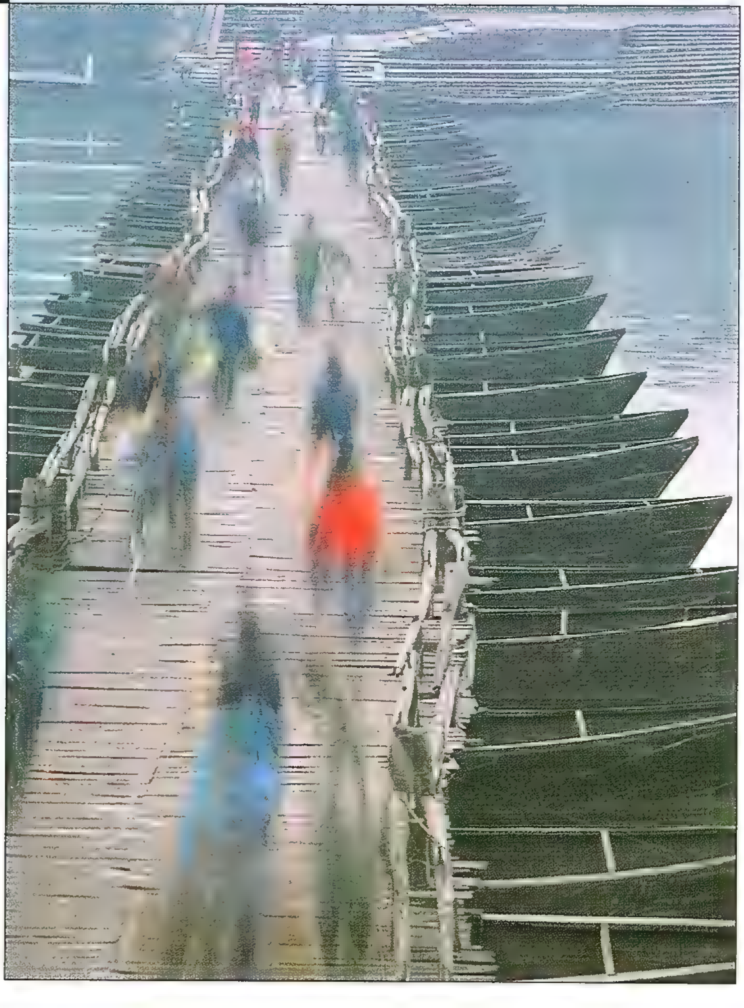
南天門
門闢九霄仰步三天勝蹟

△ A common sight outside any Chinese city's railway station, as people settle down to wait for a train. With and without tickets, individuals, family groups and knots of soldiers on the move sit, squat, chat, snooze, eat, play cards and otherwise pass the time. Thousands will pass over the station forecourt throughout the course of the day — and the scene is repeated every day of the year, regardless of the weather.
Tianjin; photo by Cui Shuncai

▽ Crossing such swift streams in the Liangshan Mountains is a perilous undertaking. The trick is to balance one's weight against the 'railing' of rough, unstripped branches as one moves sideways, step by careful step. The local Yi people are adept at this, even when carrying heavy loads on their backs.
Ganluo County, Sichuan; photo by Zhong Dakun

△ Bikes rule! China can truly claim to be a 'kingdom of bicycles'. Non-polluting, relatively inexpensive and thus within the reach of a broad spectrum of the population, taking up little room (the equivalent number of motor vehicles in the cycle park opposite would necessitate a multi-storey carpark!), easy to handle, they are China's most common means of personal transport.
Wuxi, Jiangsu; photo by Zhang Jiurong

▽ This pontoon bridge made up of small wooden boats covered with thin planking makes an uncomfortable and dangerous surface on which to ride; cyclists are obliged to dismount and push their bikes across, even during the morning rush hour. The bridge rocks and sways with the boats as they adjust to the flow of the River Jinjiang.
Gao'an County, Jiangxi; photo by Shu Hongping



△ The sun is still low in the sky but the cycle park is filling up rapidly with thousands of bicycles in serried rows. The miracle is that anybody ever succeeds in finding their own bike again....
Yudu County, Jiangxi; photo by Li Qing

△ Hong Kong favours double-decker buses in the British style, and this open-topped version is a special favourite with tourists; it provides a free shuttle service between the Star Ferry and the lower terminus of the Peak Tram, which climbs to the highest point of Hong Kong Island at a sharp angle.
Hong Kong; photo by Tai Chi Yin

Translated by Ursula Yeung

Culture and Personal Development

TEXT BY HAO YE
& DU KEDAO

1989
三 MARCH 月
15
星期三 WEDNESDAY
己巳年二月初八
ONE DAY IN CHINA

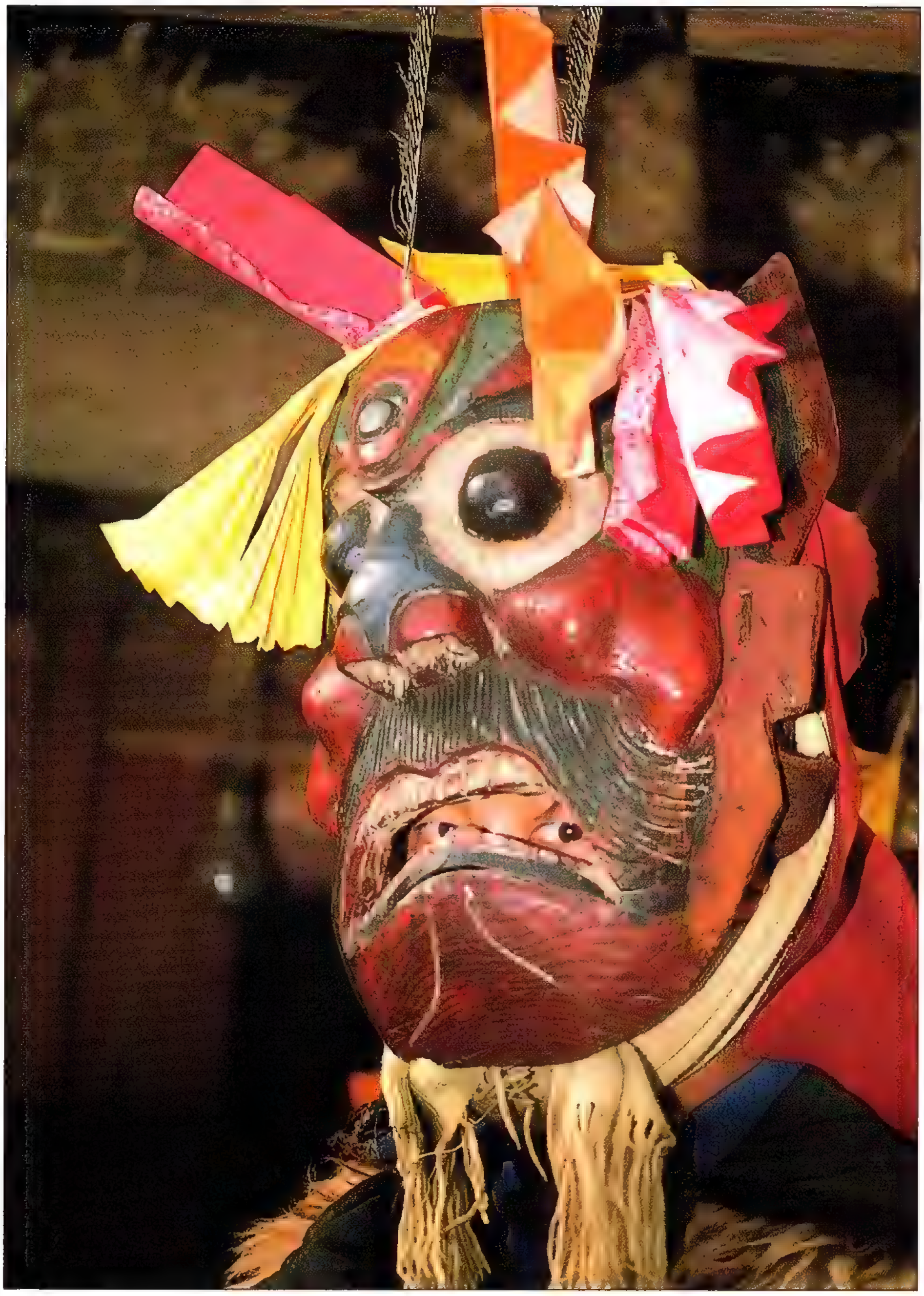
To work well, one must also know how to relax well. After all, to quote the old saw, 'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy!'

Life is full of so many other aspects besides the sometimes monotonous necessity to earn one's living. In China, as elsewhere, people have no shortage of things to fill in their leisure hours. The traditional round of festivals, often religious, is one possibility and there are many other pleasures which are pure entertainment. But many people wish to cultivate their inner self, to extend their abilities through extra-mural classes and artistic ventures. Others may concentrate on physical development.

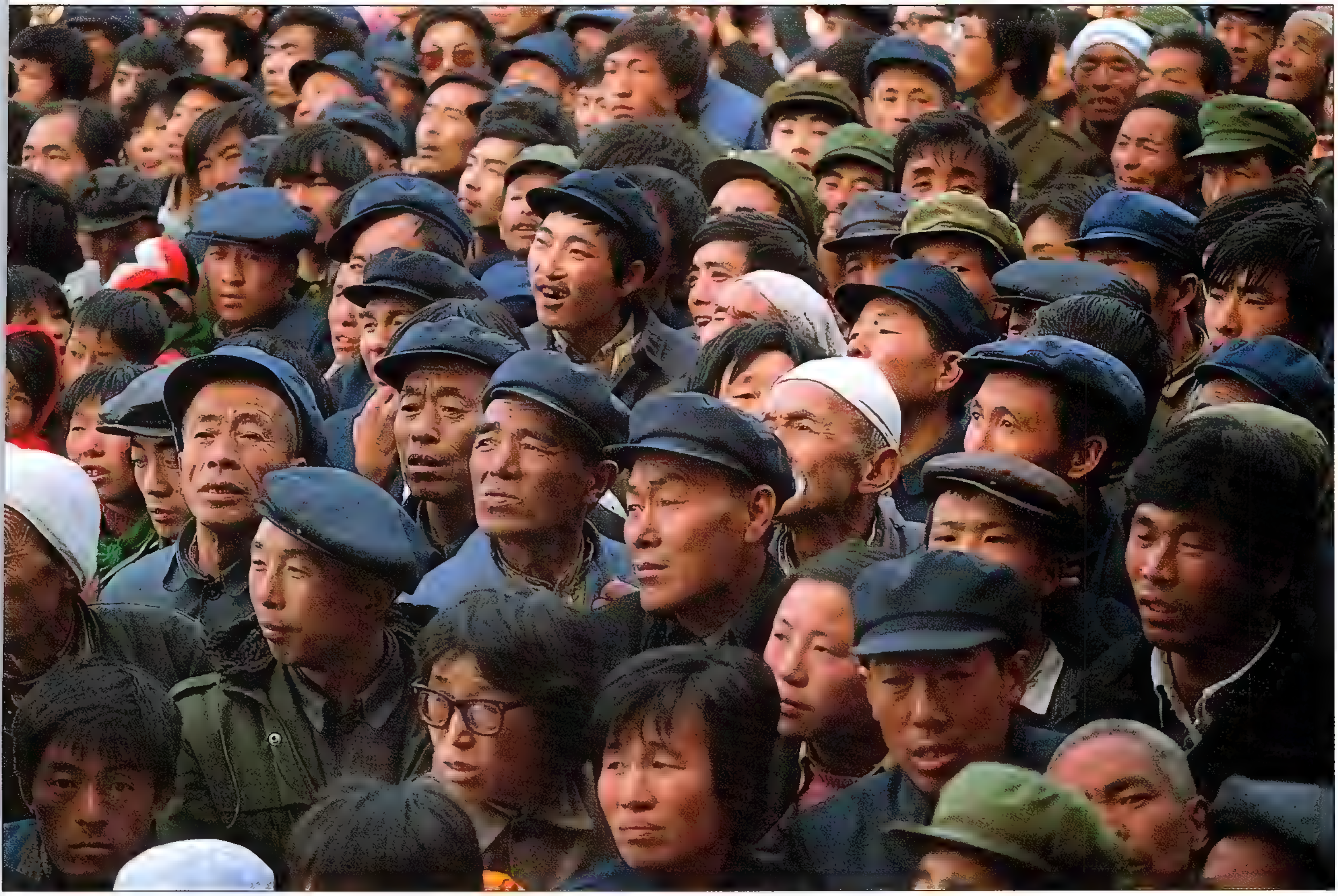
However, the options vary widely across the country. Rural people tend to stick to the simpler, more familiar traditional pleasures while city-dwellers have an increasingly sophisticated palette of activities within their reach, as we see in this broad study of China's hobbies and interests.

Although March 15 1989 was not a national holiday, our contributing photographers did manage to capture a few local festivals.

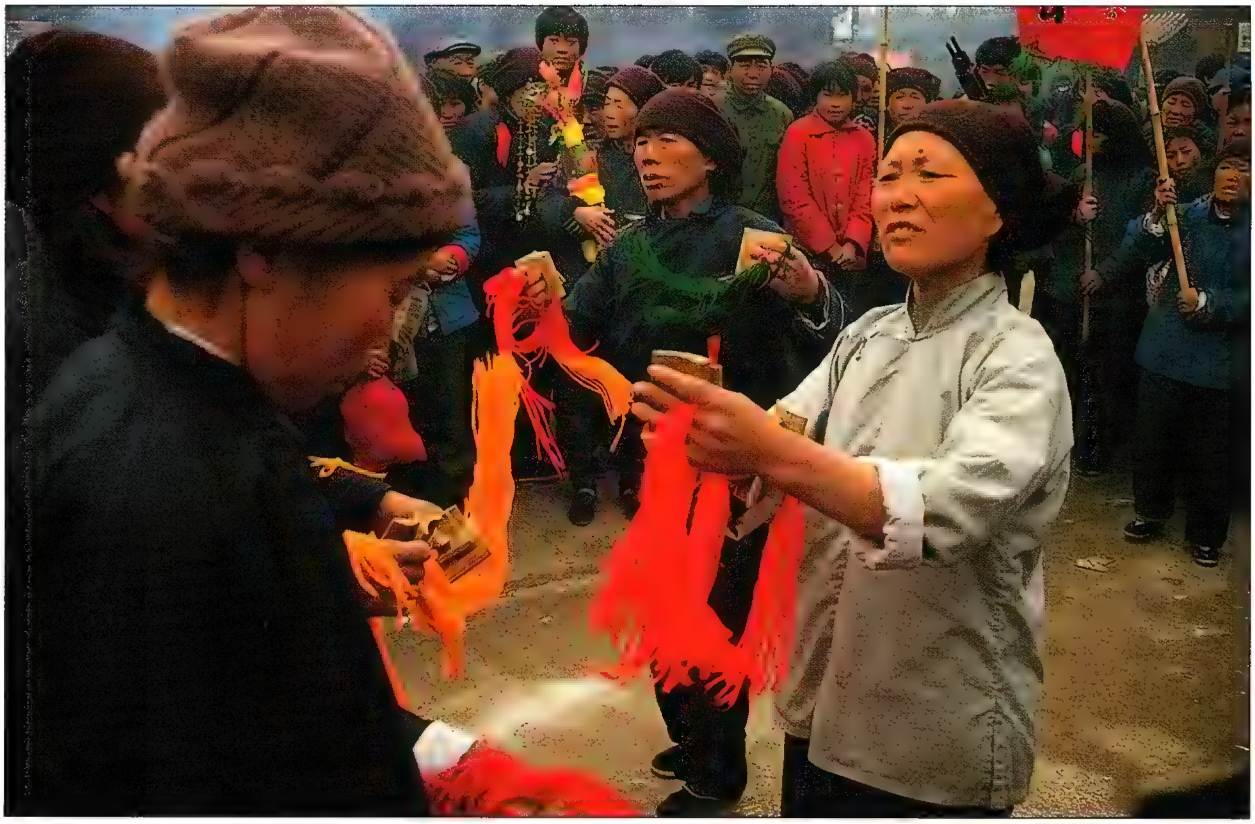
Puppet show in Fuding, Fujian, by Chen Zhengming; kite-flying in Tian'anmen Square, Beijing, by Ren Chenming; teahouse in Chengdu, Sichuan, by Chen Jin; photo session in Nanjing, Jiangsu, by Xiao Zhuang; special school in Changsha, Hunan, by Lü Zhiguo; table tennis in Huangshi, Hubei, by Tang Shizeng; art exhibition in Qingdao, Shandong, by Ren Xihai



△ The human eyes peering from behind the ancient mask are young and fresh. This is a Tibetan demon dance intended, among other things, to pray for a bumper harvest as the new agricultural season gets underway.
Wenxian County, Gansu; photo by Chen Yunguang

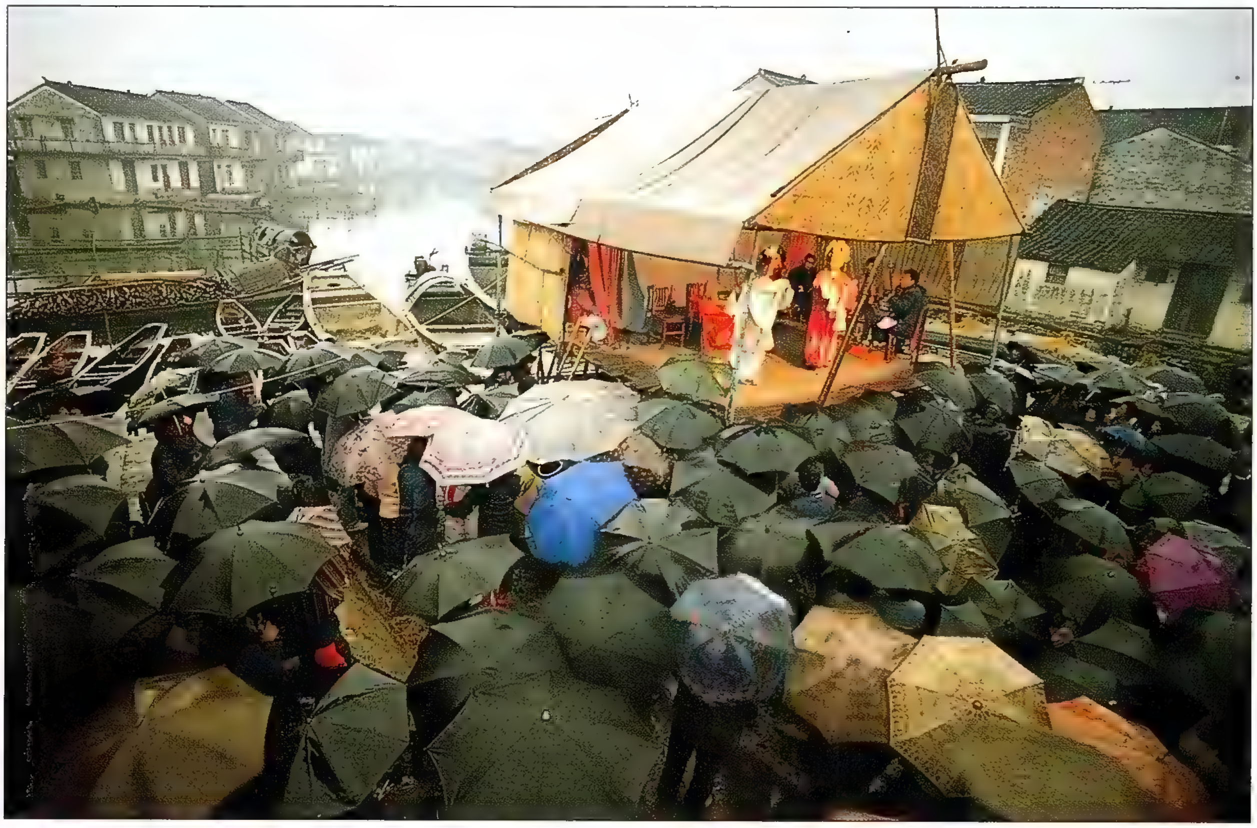


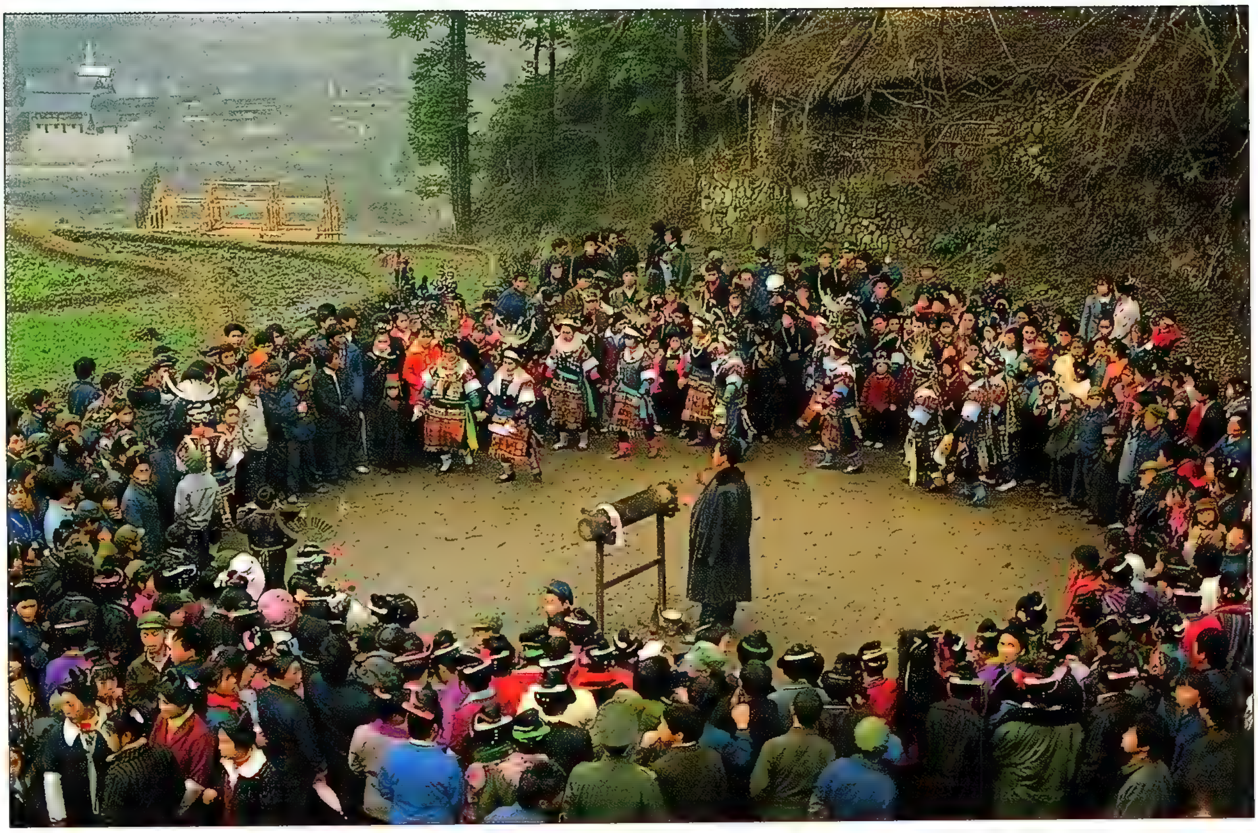
△ Faces young and old, male and female, register a wide range of emotions as events unfold on the stage before them. They are held spellbound by the ancient tale of intrigue, of loyal vassals and treacherous ministers, of commoners exalted to noble status or nobles reduced to penury, the intricacies of the plot reaching across the centuries to touch or amuse them today.
Changzhi, Shanxi; photo by Yuan Xuejun



△ A group of pilgrims at a temple fair erupts spontaneously into a performance punctuated by the rapid rhythmic clackings of bamboo clappers, a simple but attention-grabbing accompaniment. The women are singing about people of the past and the significance of marriage and childbirth....
Huaiyang County, Henan; photo by Er Dongqiang

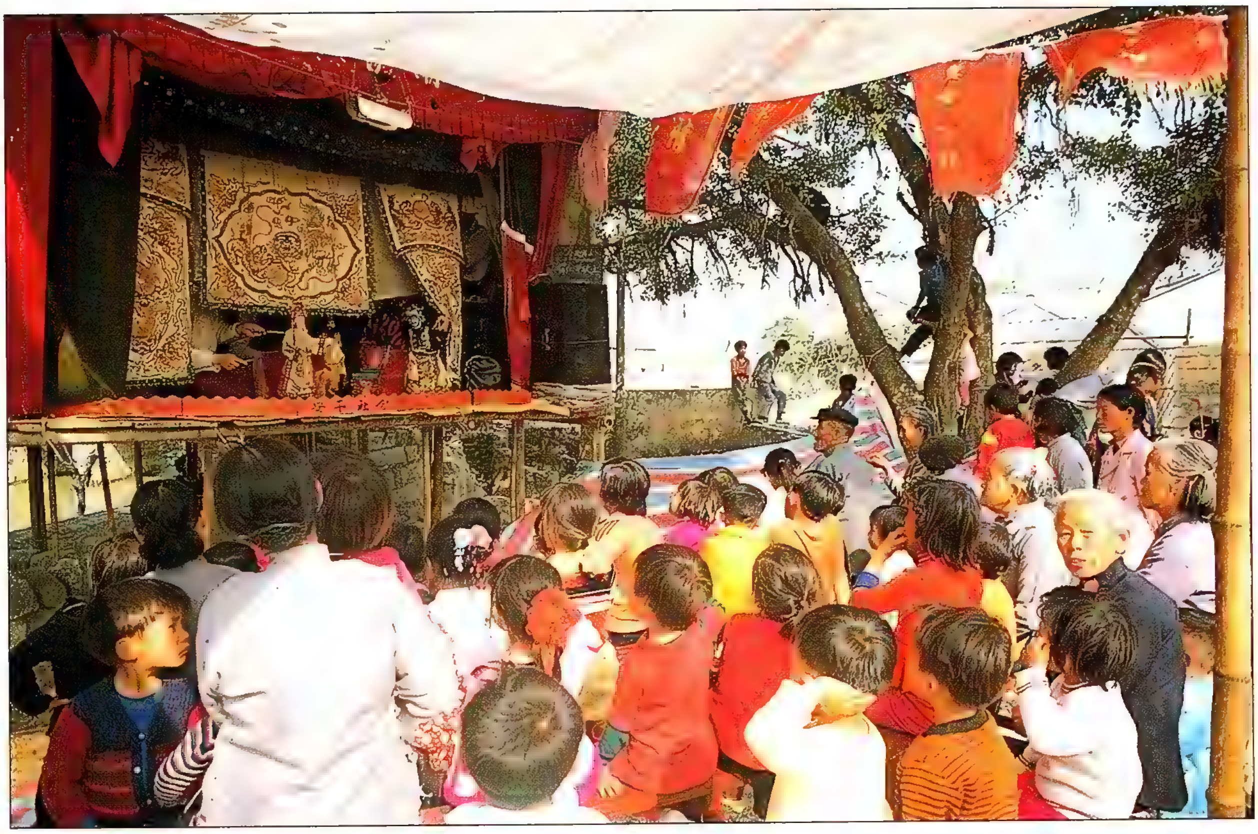
▽ A makeshift stage beside a canal in this water-crossed region south of the River Yangtse provides an unlikely setting for romantic stories of scholars and beauties. Yet, retold generation after generation, such tales have lost nothing of their popularity. The villagers huddling under their umbrellas disdain the spring drizzle, determined not to miss a single note of the opera performance.
Shaoxing, Zhejiang; photo by Chen Xiao





△ On this day the Miao people of southeastern Guizhou celebrate one of their many festivals. This is the so-called Wooden Drum Festival and the wooden drum itself in the centre of the ring is the focus of activities. Even those who are not direct participants in the day's dancing and singing are dressed up in their best (especially the marriageable girls) and welcome the opportunity to display their most resplendent silver hair ornaments. Here, tradition is truly alive.
Kaili, Guizhou; photo by He Huaibo

▽ To the delight of the youngest and the oldest generation in particular, it seems, a puppet show is taking place in the shade of the giant banyan tree. A curious mixture of ancient and modern, it features exquisitely finished puppets manipulated from behind the scenes, and ornate embroidered backcloths made many decades ago. The large speakers ensure that the audience does not miss a word of the witty dialogue which the older members already know by heart.
Shantou, Guangdong; photo by Zhang Qun

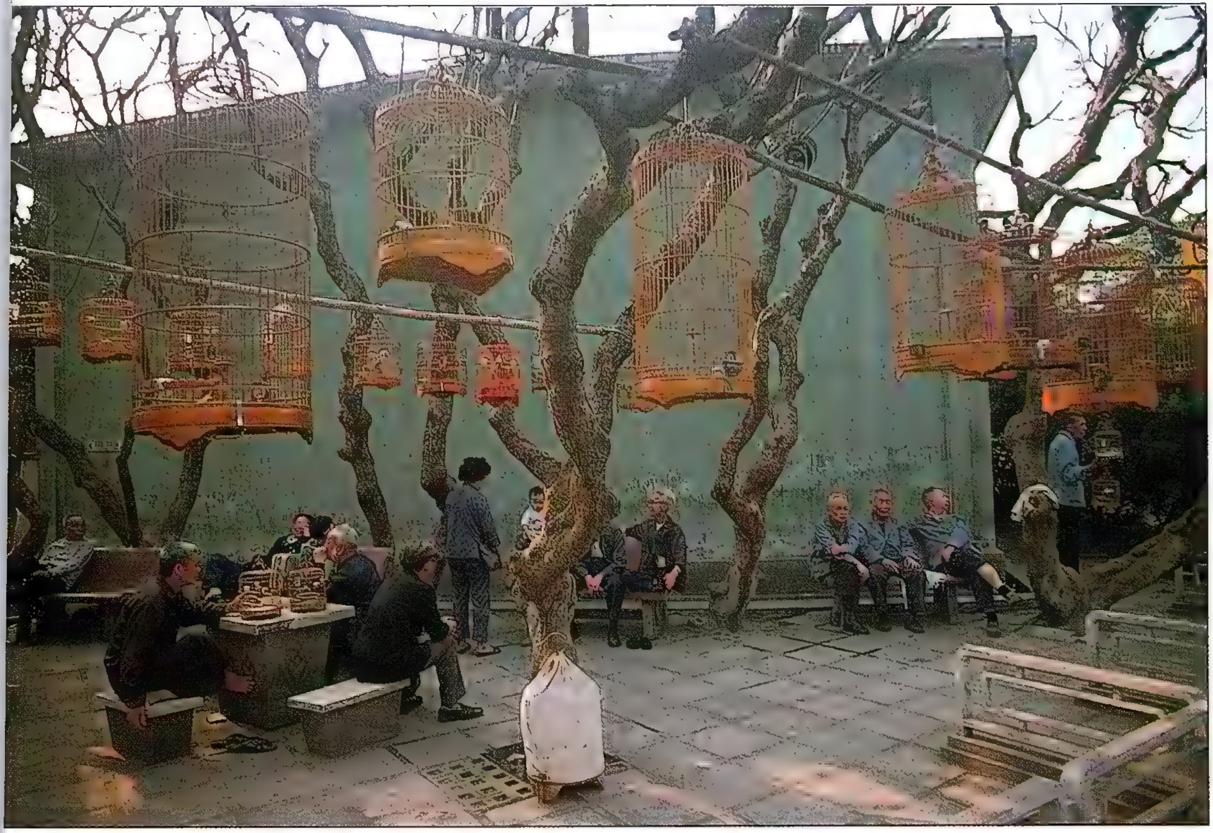


Filling in the Leisure Hours: The time passes all too quickly as one chats over a bowl of tea, listens to traditional

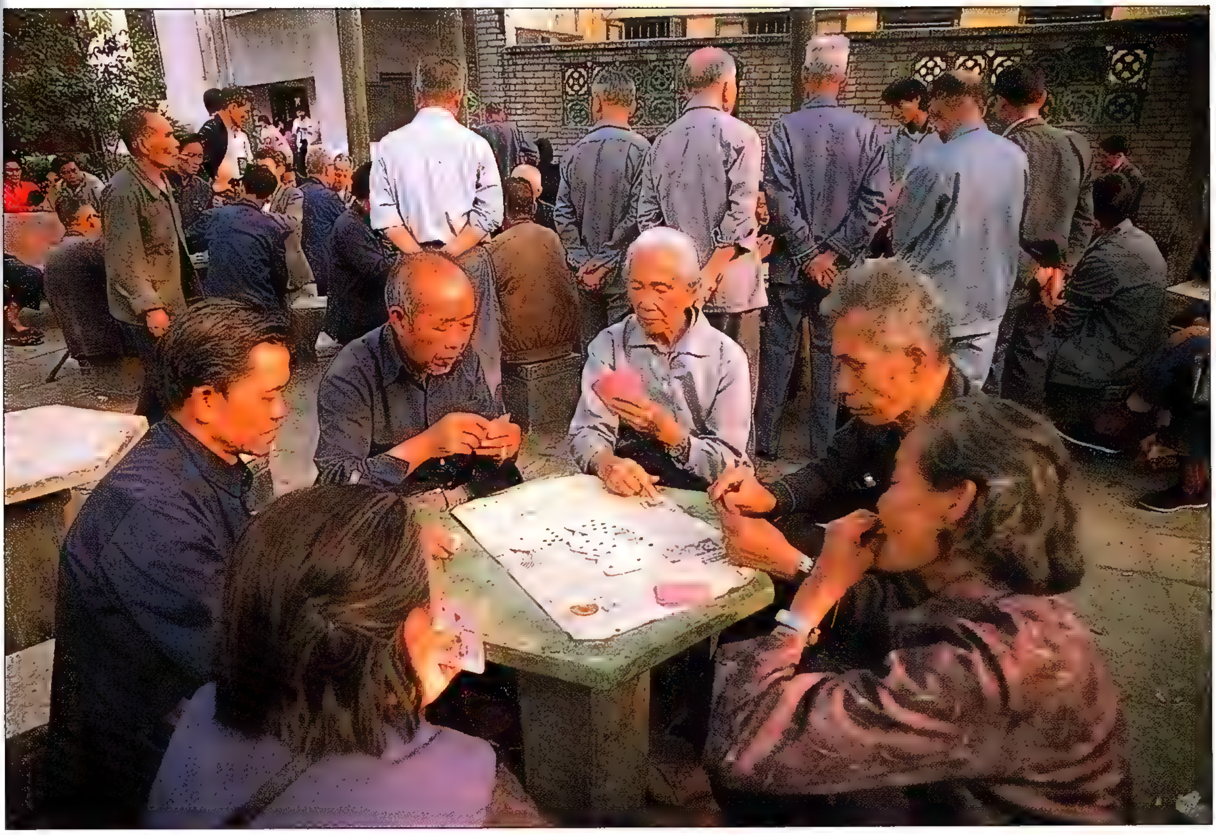
▷
An ex-serviceman, now retired, has said farewell to arms and now prefers to turn his hand to producing gentle airs on a guitar. He can also play the violin and is the proud owner of, in all, three guitars and five violins, such is his passion for music-making.
Yuexi County, Anhui; photo by Kang Shiwei

△▷
Sichuan is famous for its teahouses, which are filled with people from morning to night. Once one has paid a small sum for the actual tea leaves, hot water is brought round at regular intervals without further charge. The atmosphere is casual and unhurried, making a teahouse the perfect place to while away the afternoon with cronies or even settle in for a good read or a quiet snooze.

Some teahouses put on performances of traditional music, or there may be a resident story-teller to narrate a historical episode from one of the ever-popular classics. Many teahouses also have a professional 'ear-cleaner' on the premises; on request, he will come and attend to a patron's ears with deft manipulation of a long earpick.
Chengdu, Sichuan; photos by Lin Yiping and Chen Jin



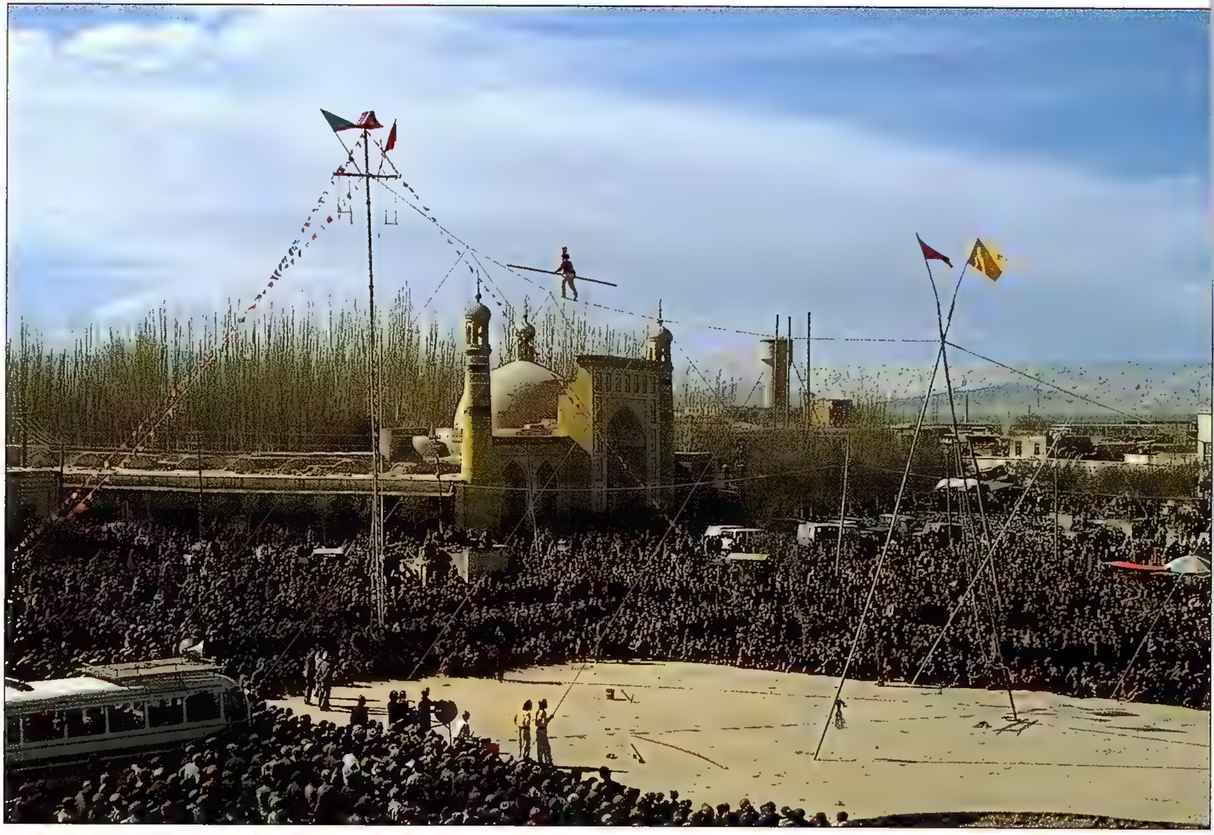
◁
As the sun warms the day, bird-owners gather in a public park for their daily treat. The caged birds revel in the fresh air and in the company of their peers and burst into an extravaganza of competitive song. The mostly retired people who go in for this particular hobby feel their own spirits refreshed and uplifted by the enchanting sounds made by their pets.
Guangzhou, Guangdong; photo by Du Younong



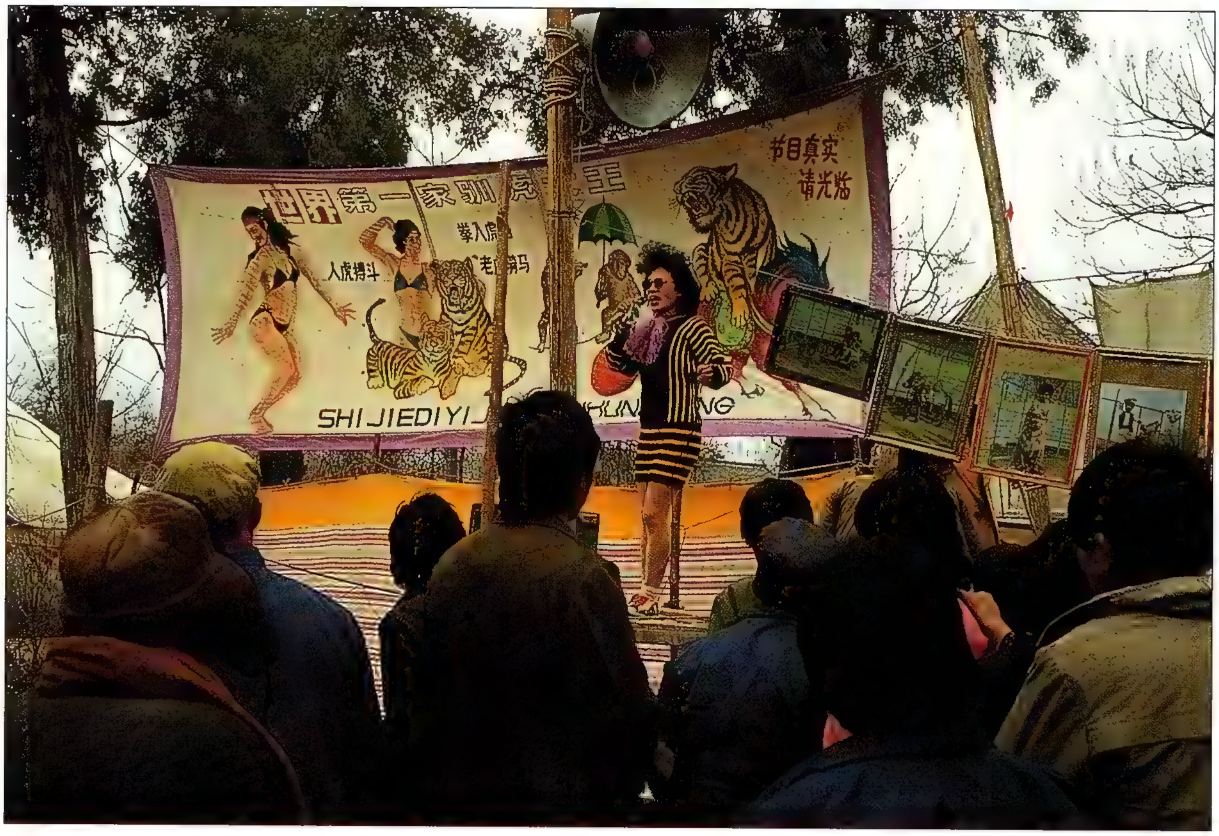
◁
At certain times of day, the casual observer might well think there was a card school in progress in the park. But, no, these are just old friends getting together for a bit of company. Retired workers all, men and women, they enjoy the chance to pit their skills against one other. And if they win, they'll be able to boast about it for days!
Guangzhou, Guangdong; photo by Du Younong

Welcome Diversions: There's delight in anything out of the ordinary — a daring acrobatic stunt, a visit to the circ

▷
The Aidiga'er (Id Kah) Mosque forms the heart of the old city of Kashi. Its interest is both religious and secular since the enormous square in front is used for public events as well as for the night market. Today, the attraction is an acrobat from Yengisar. With a pile of bowls on his head, a balancing pole five or six metres long in his hands, he advances up the sloping tightrope. The audience waits with bated breath for the climax: he is to make a head-stand before the finish!
Kashi (Kashgar), Xinjiang; photo by Bao Di



▷
As a peripheral amusement during a temple fair, a circus is in town. And, in true fairground tradition, with fancy pictures and persuasive words, a performer entices fair-goers to buy admission tickets for one of the biggest draws — an act featuring a female tiger-tamer.
Huaiyang County, Henan; photo by Er Dongqiang

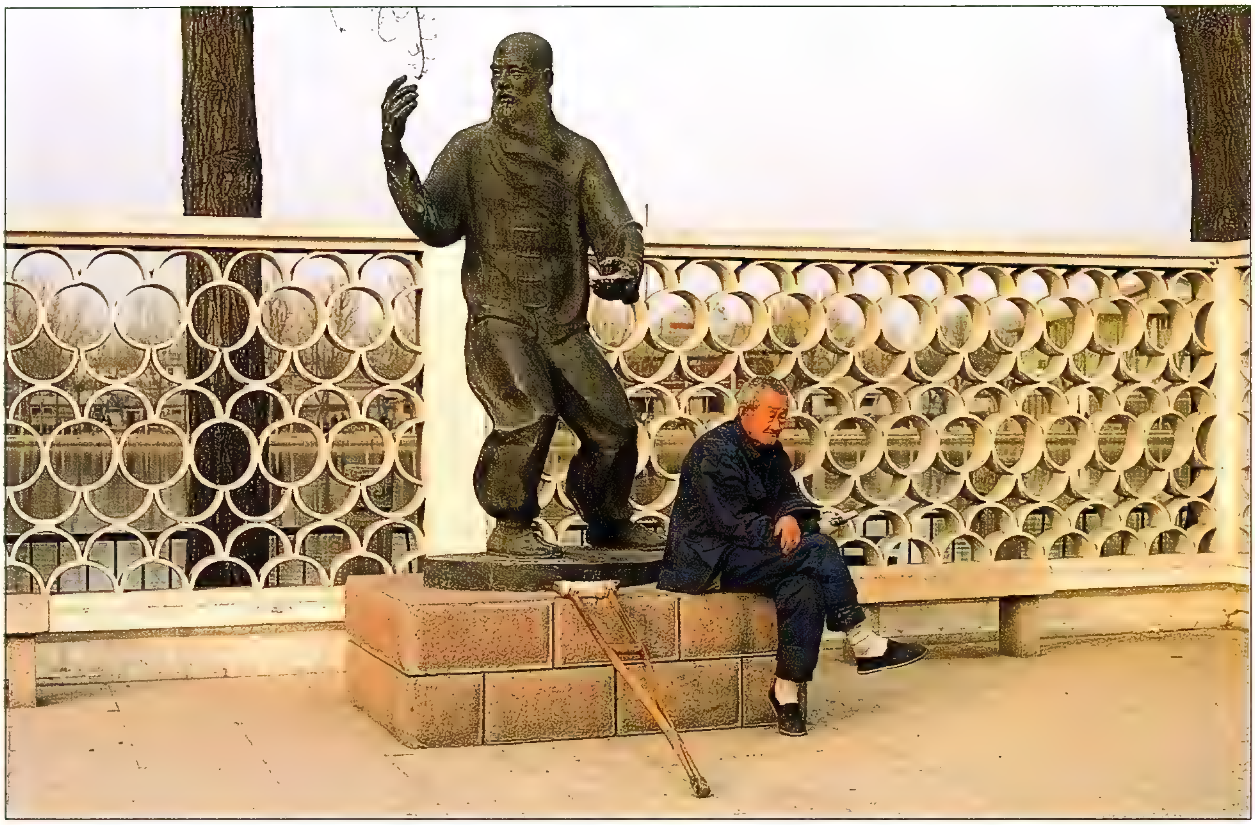

节目真实
请光临
人虎搏斗
SHIJIEDIYI

◁
On the tiny island of Shengshan in the furthest reaches of the Zhoushan Archipelago, it is a rare and wondrous thing to have a photographer turn up. This is an opportunity not to be missed. In a twinkling, with a table and a gay bed sheet, an instant studio is set up — and pretty soon all the children are lining up to be recorded for posterity as the news flies around the island.
Zhoushan Archipelago, Zhejiang; photo by Liu Changming

◁
If it's Wednesday, there must be evening races at Happy Valley! Housewives, office-workers, business executives, labourers, thousands of people pour into the race-course overlooked by towering residential blocks on Hong Kong Island to enjoy the sight of thoroughbreds thundering around the track. For some, that is pleasure and excitement enough, but for the majority it's the betting that's the major draw. Fortunes may be made here tonight....
Hong Kong; photo by Lam Kin Fai

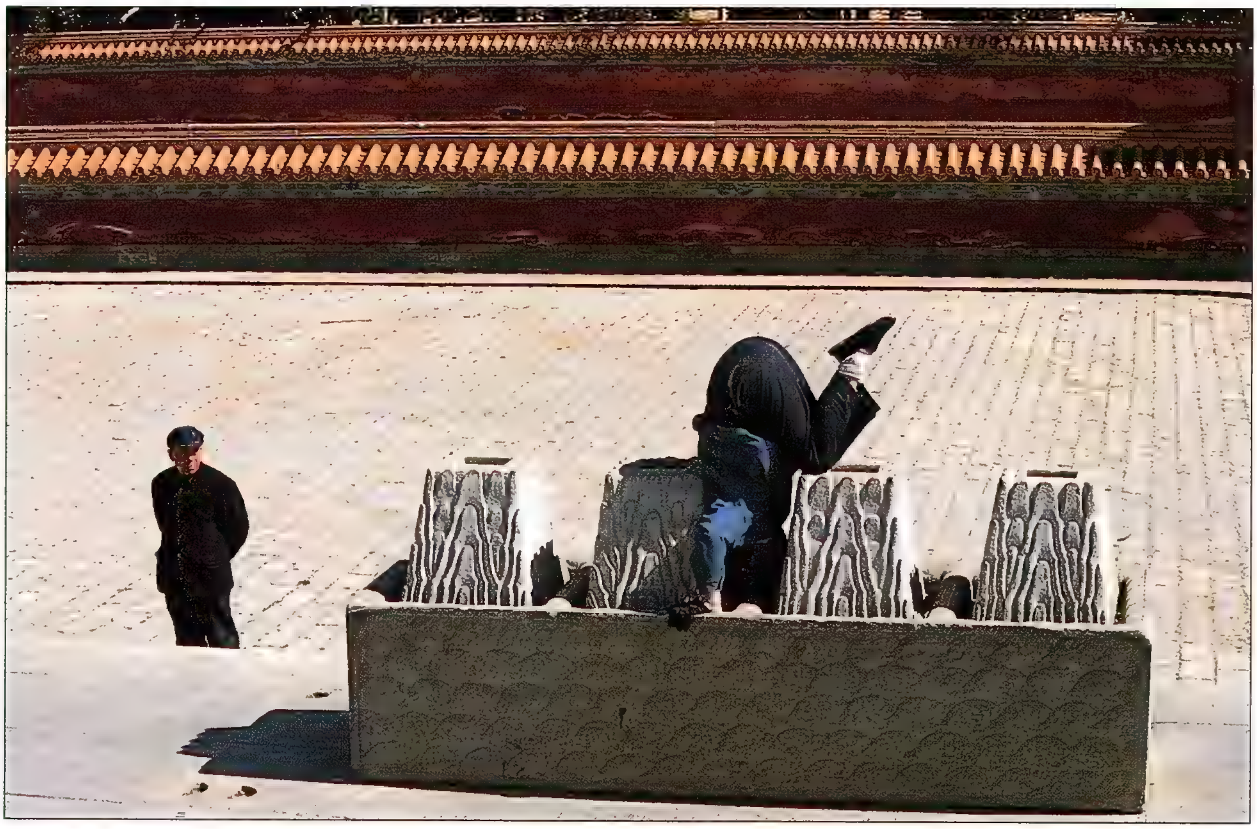
▷
It's a cool and misty morning, but nothing can interfere with the way this elderly group starts their day beside Lake Daming in the city. Experts one and all, with years of daily practice behind them, they run through the complete set of *taijiquan* movements, not once, but several times, warming their bodies and resting their minds. This is meditation through motion.
Jinan, Shandong; photo by Hou Heliang

mplified by such disciplines as *taijiquan*



△ The bronze statue in a classic *taijiquan* pose is aptly sited in an area where many people, especially the elderly, practise every morning. This picture of healthy and glowing old age is no doubt meant to encourage them. But now that he needs a crutch to walk, it seems that this pensioner can only look on as others strive for perfection.
Beijing; photo by Ling Feng

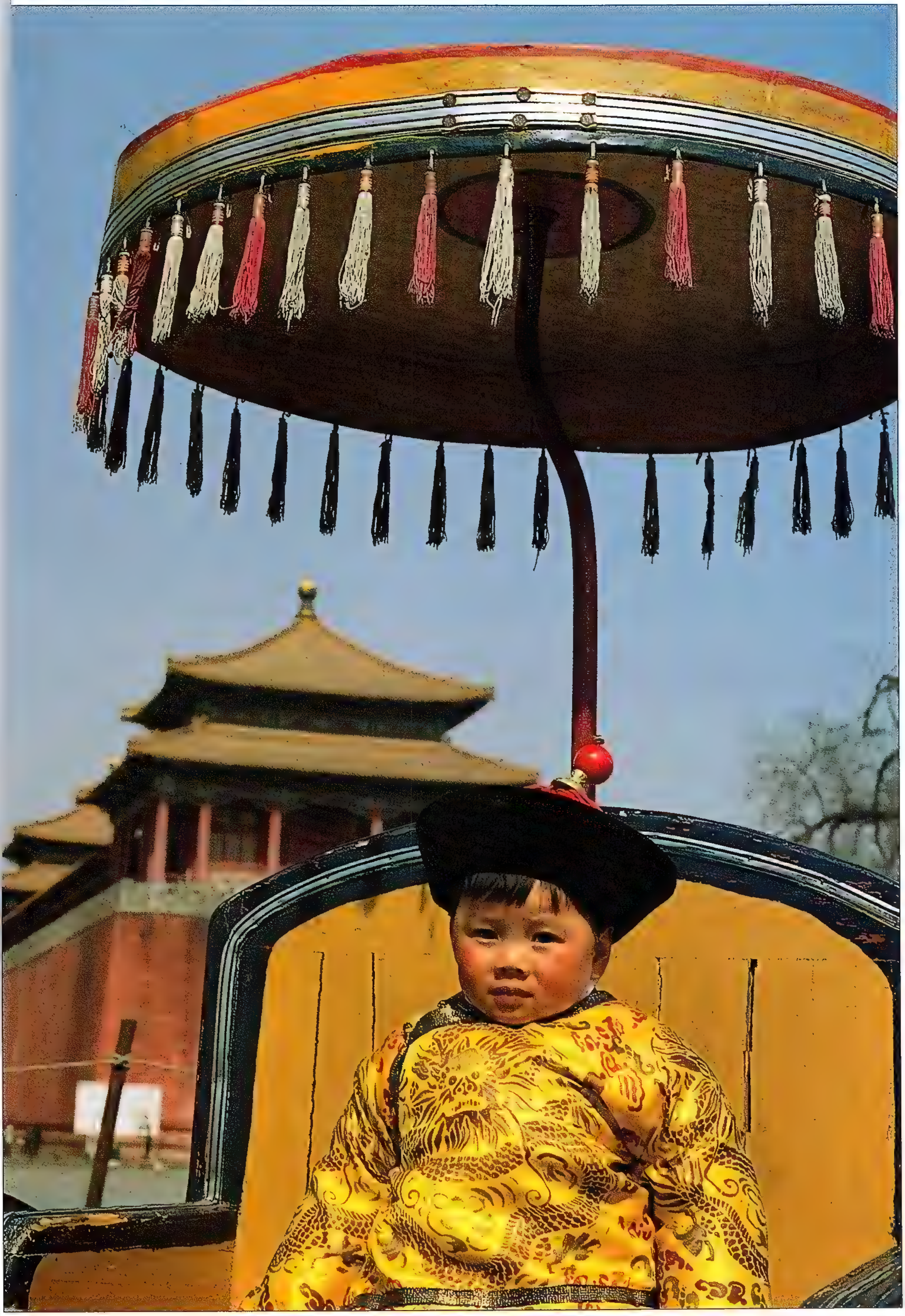
▽ Among the many stone carvings at Fangze Altar in Ditan (Temple of Earth) Park is this strangely shaped one which appears to have found another use. Perfect for those wishing to experiment with *qigong* breathing exercises! The pointed toes and careful body alignment tell us that this is no casual head-stand.
Beijing; photo by Wang Wenyang



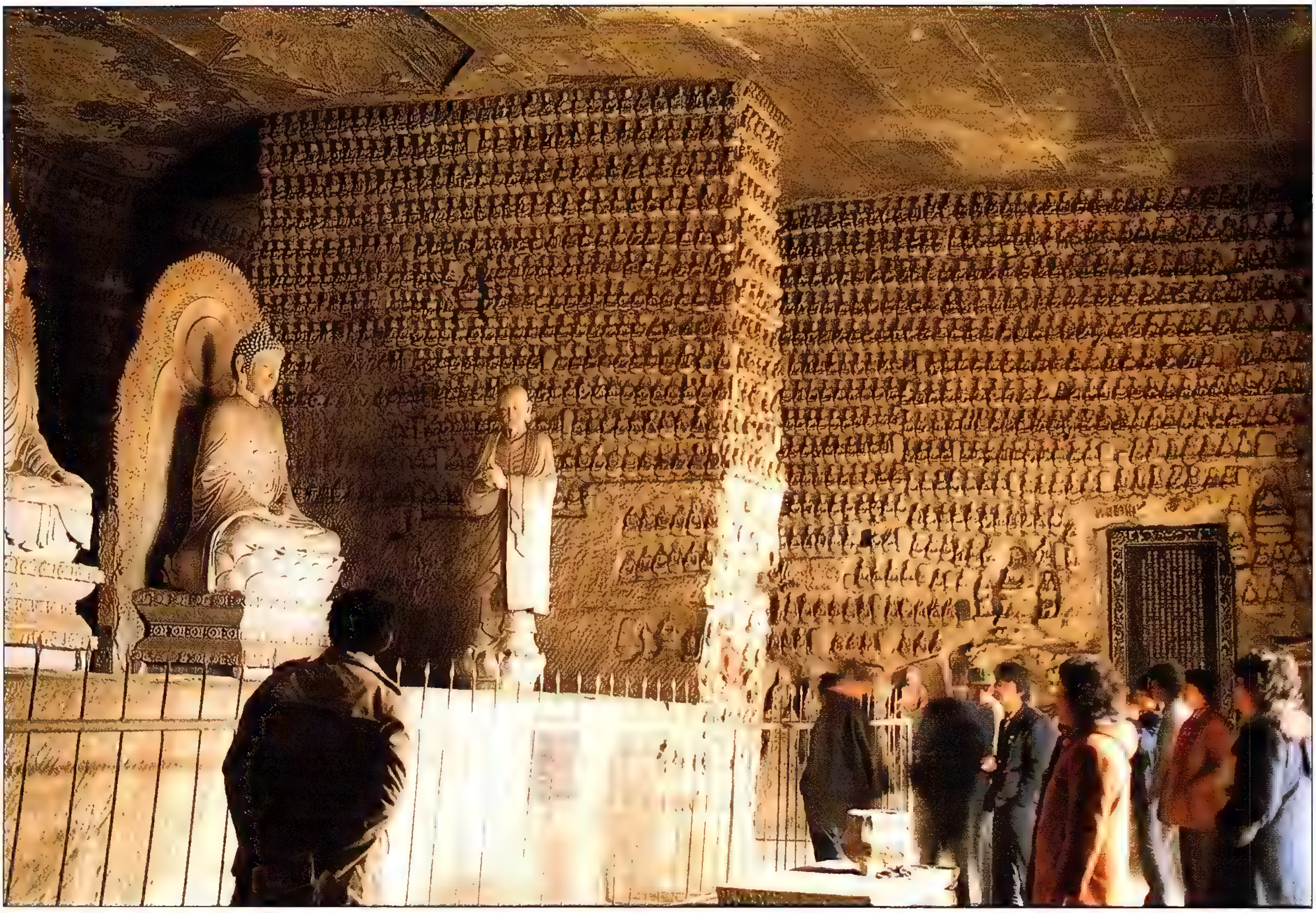
△ The recent Chinese craze for 'disco-dancing' shows no sign of dying out. However chilly the weather, it has become the thing to go out into the street first thing in the morning and dance for the good of your health — whatever your age.
Qingdao, Shandong; photo by Ren Xihai

▽ Physical it is not, but the Chinese version of chess demands exceptional mental agility. Even more so when you're playing in a competitive event. Bundled up against the cold, the players are prepared to spend hours facing their opponent like this, deep in concentration.
Enshi, Hubei; photo by Tian Dejian

▷
This picture is a faithful record of March 15 1989, when both domestic and foreign tourists were flocking through the halls and over the marble terraces and stairways of the Forbidden City, now the Palace Museum. The old glamour of the emperors still calls to those whose lives are so different to come and stare, and try to perceive the truth behind the facade of history.
Beijing; photo by Shen Yantai



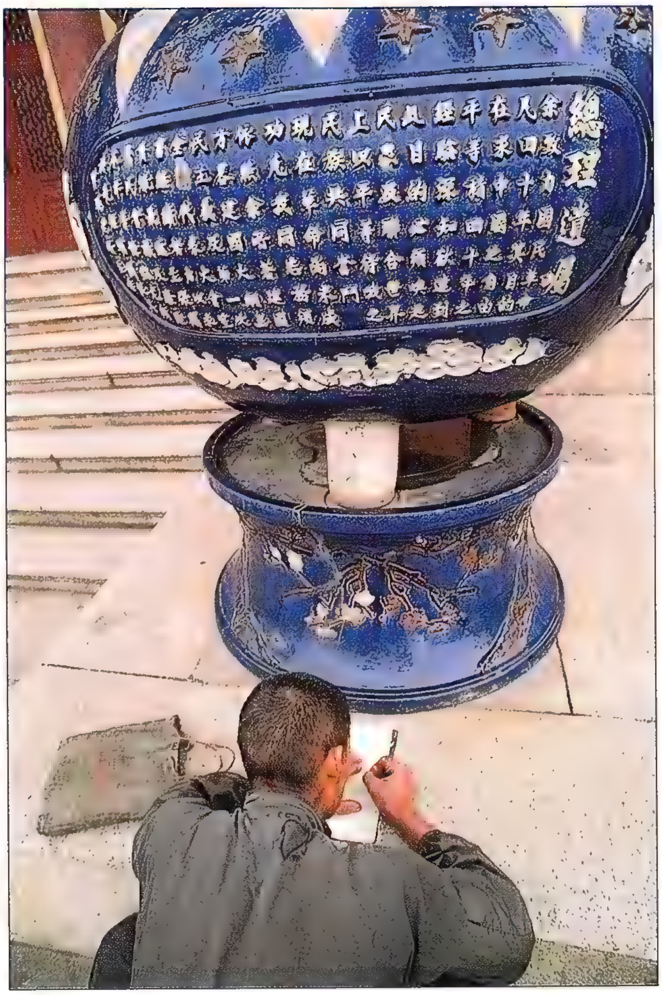
◁
In these days of strict family planning and the 'one-child' policy, this is an appropriate picture for the family photo album. China's growing army of only children are known, with good reason, as 'Little Emperors'. How better to illustrate this than by dressing one's offspring up in a 'dragon robe' and sitting him or her in a reproduction of an imperial carriage to face the camera. Everything necessary can be found at a photographer's stand in the Forbidden City.
Beijing; photo by Gao Mingyi



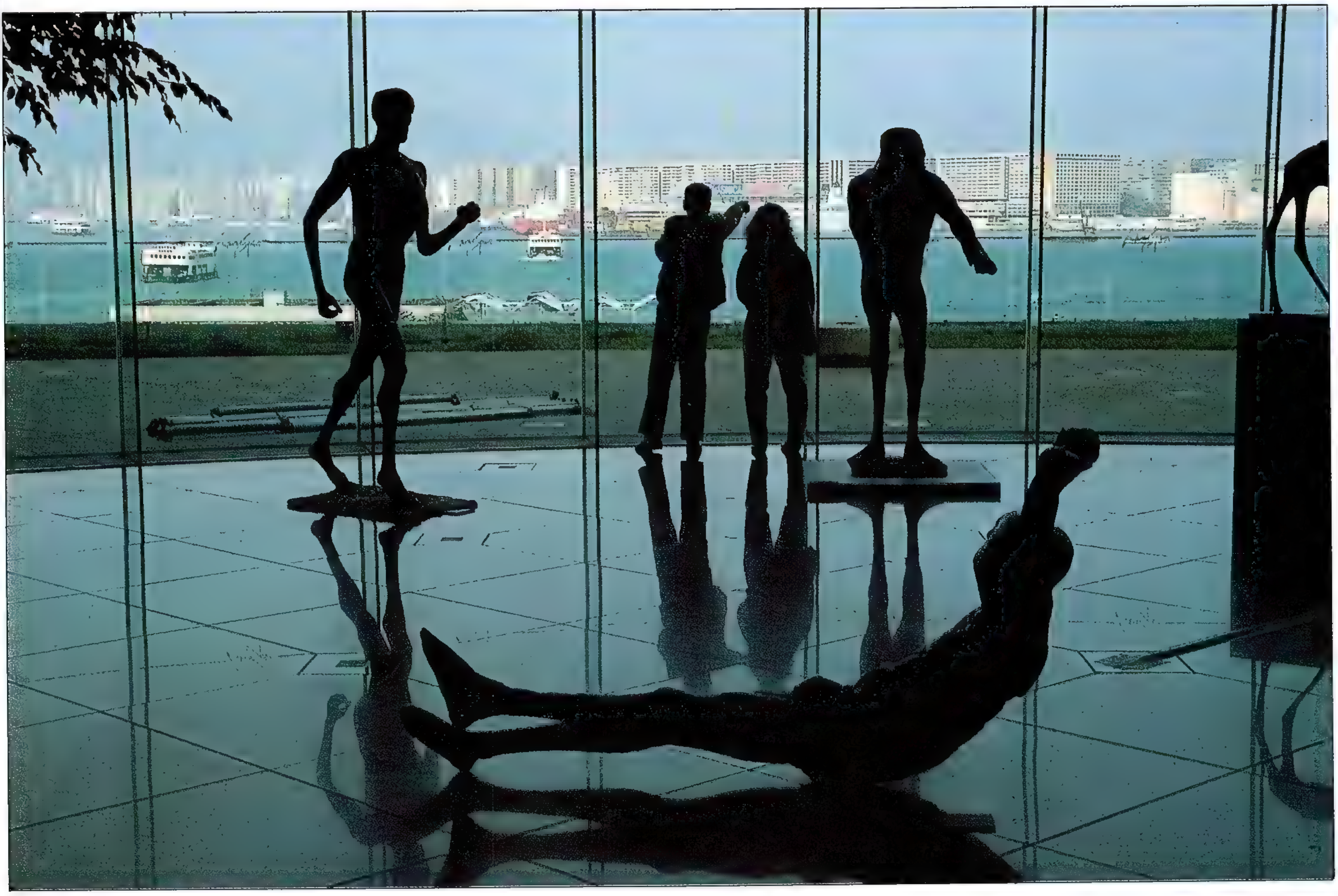
△ The eyes of thousands of Buddhas meet the questing eyes of thousands of tourists in a strange confrontation. Whether due to the call of religion or the search for the beauty created by artisans of the past, religious sites such as the Wanfo (Ten Thousand Buddha) Monastery on Mount Qingliang draw very large numbers of visitors from all over China and beyond.
Yan'an, Shaanxi; photo by Wei Xiaoling

△ Relaxing near a lake in enchanting scenery can really give you a thirst! Holiday-makers take a good pull at a bottle of beer (Qingdao (Tsingtao), the best?) as they enjoy their lunch.
Jinan, Shandong; photo by Li Xia

▽
Not at all distracted by the exhibition of modern sculpture in the Rotunda in Exchange Square, tourists identify places on the Tsimshatsui waterfront opposite. Exchange Square itself is a very beautiful example of ultra-modern architecture, a poem of reflective glass and rose-coloured polished granite which draws many admirers.
Hong Kong; photo by Peng Zhenge



◁
Dr Sun Yat-sen's testament is reproduced on a ceramic globe outside his Memorial Hall in the heart of Guangzhou. Its significance is so strong, even today, that a visiting monk is moved to copy it down, character for character, as a very different souvenir of his trip to this southern city.
Guangzhou, Guangdong; photo by Li Qidong



Education is a Lifelong Undertaking: The thirst for knowledge does not dry up with the end of childhood, it just

△
But of course, for children, study is more than that. It is an inevitable part of their development, the door to a better tomorrow, allowing them to become useful cogs in the wheel of society. Primary school for these Manchu children is a fairly primitive institution, but the old-fashioned stove does at least keep them warm while they learn.
Xiuyan Manchu Autonomous County, Liaoning; photo by Zhu Gongfu

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◁
At first sight there may seem to be little obvious connection with the theme of education, but many Chinese people yearn for a place in a foreign institute of learning, especially those seeking to advance in the scientific and technical fields. There are currently around 40,000 Chinese students in the United States, and the lines of hopeful aspirants for a visa show no signs of drying up.
Shanghai; photo by Yang Kelin

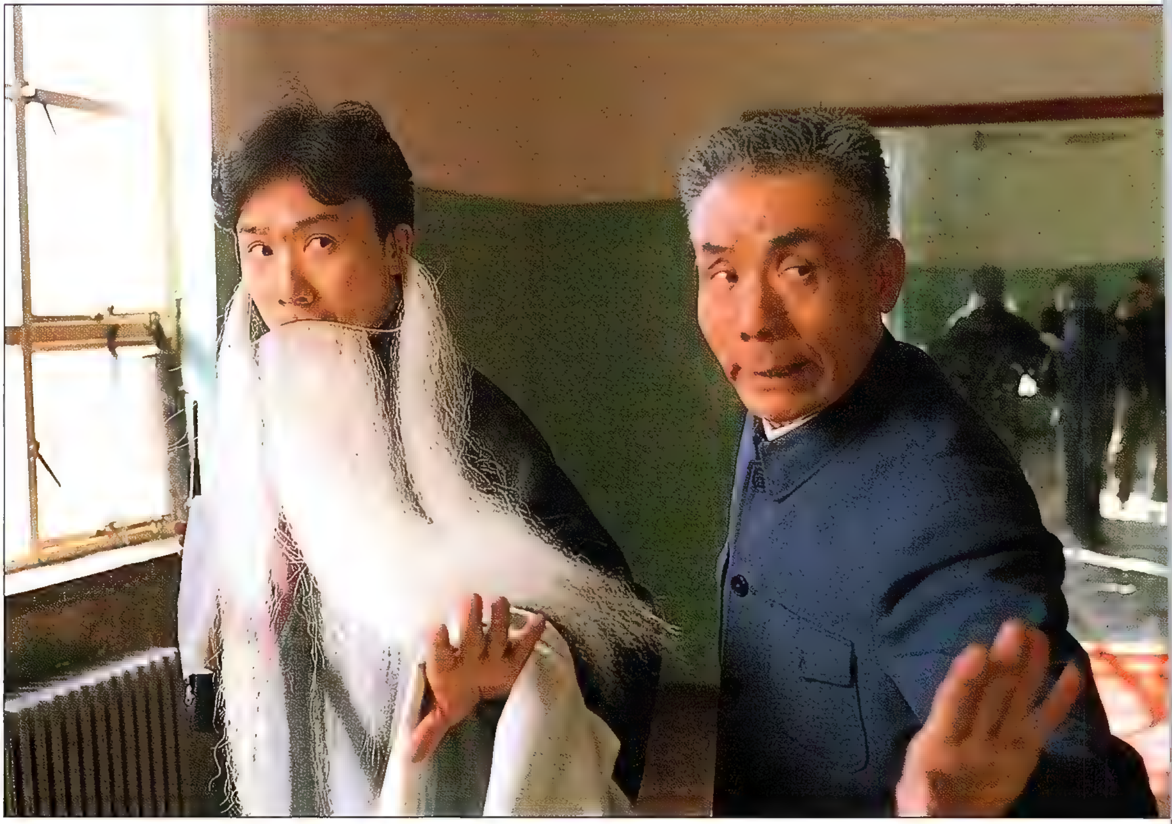
▽ For the handicapped, the path to knowledge is even more fraught with hurdles. But these industrious students of Braille at the Changsha School for the Deaf, Mute and Blind know that mastering reading by this method will open the way for them to acquire further skills.
Changsha, Hunan; photo by Lü Zhiguo

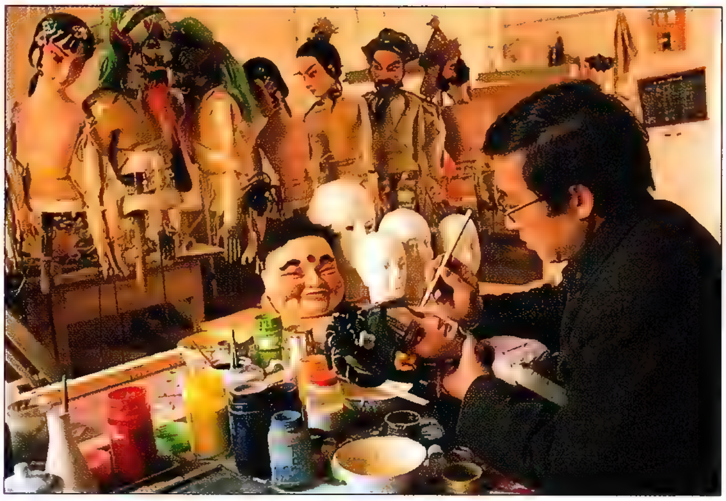
▽ The age-old art of calligraphy is taking the fancy of a growing number of people. After-hours calligraphy classes are springing up all over, and it is not uncommon to see grandmother and grandson happily practising together, as here. Age has nothing to do with the joy of capturing the inner meaning of a character in a firm stroke or swirl with traditional brush and ink.
Xiamen, Fujian; photo by Li Shiping

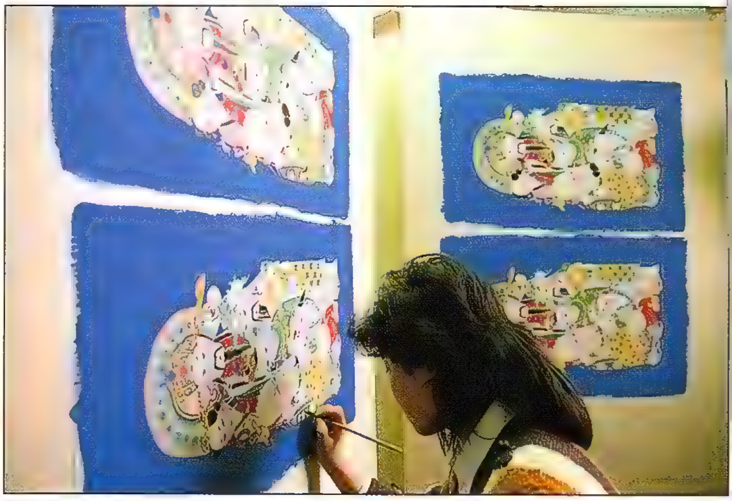
△ Bright as buttons, these youngsters copy their characters time and time again, tongues protruding with concentration. Their school is a converted temple.
Zhouzi County, Shaanxi; photo by Wu Jun

△ People stop to catch up with the day's events, undaunted by the rain. Information about the world and its doings has become an essential part of life today, something which most people would be unwilling to forego.
Guangzhou, Guangdong; photo by Du Younong

▷
Fascinating to see how the young face is already taking on the mouldings of the teacher's as a student strains to depict an opera character down to the last nuance. How to manage wide, long sleeves and how to comport himself as a person of venerable age are just two of the many aspects this young man must master in his turn.
Beijing; photo by Wu Gang

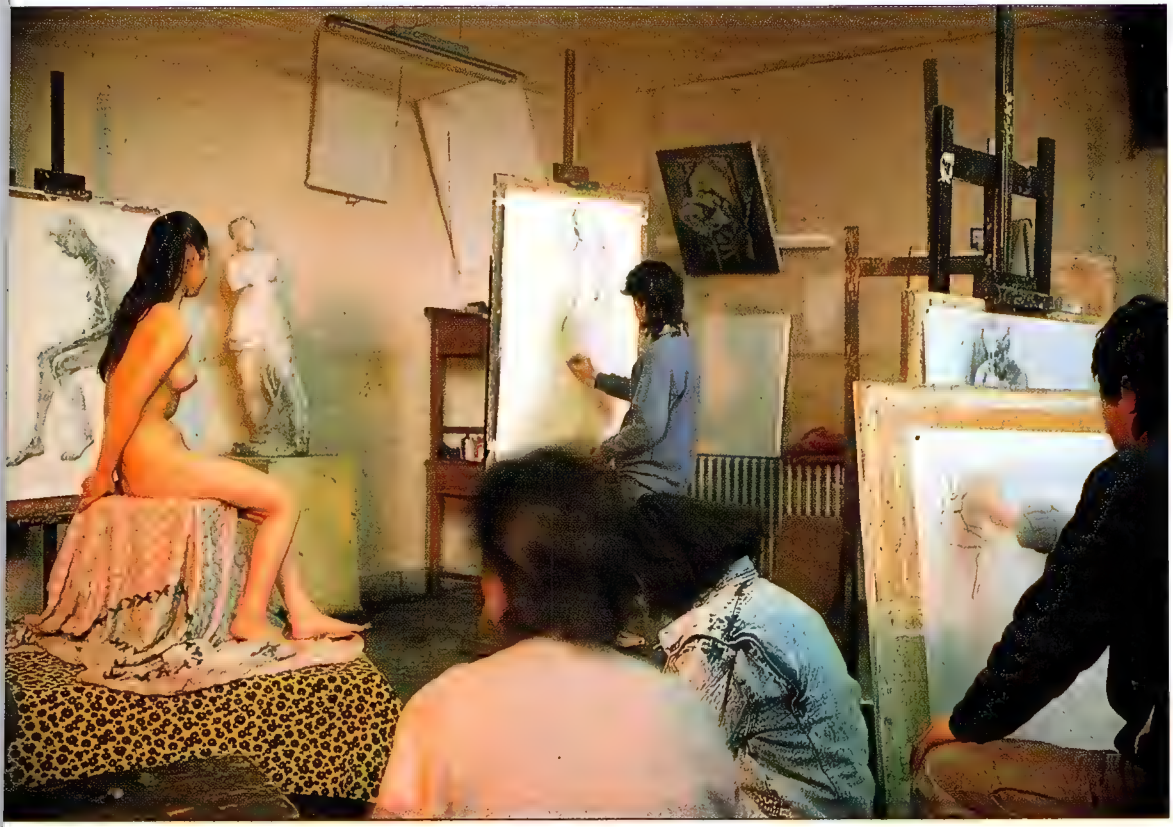




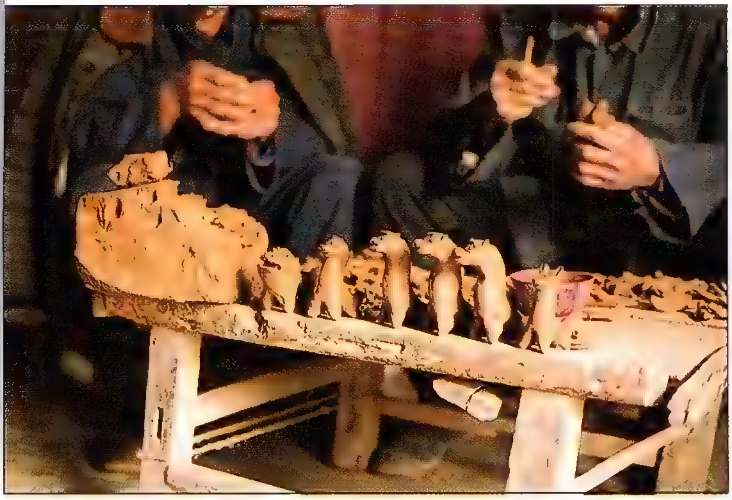


△ New additions to the range of characters in the repertoire of the Yangzhou Puppetry Troupe emerge under the skilful hands of a puppet-maker. Although they are just painted clay busts, the final effect will be such as to move the audience to laughter or tears, as the story requires.
Yangzhou, Jiangsu; photo by Wang Hongjun

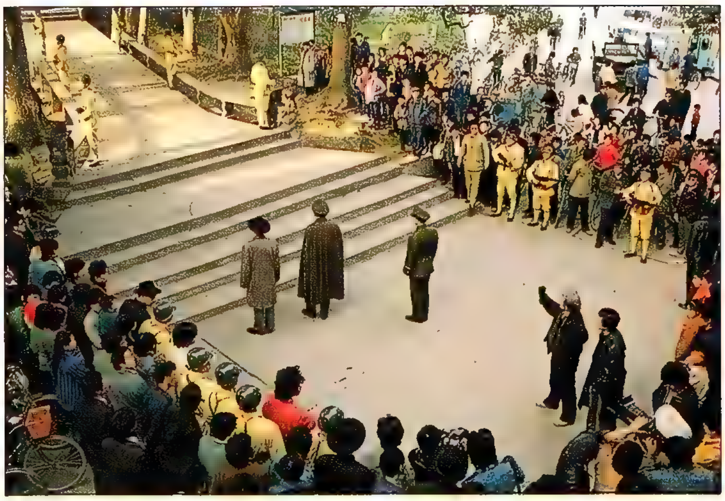
△ Although it is only just after the Spring Festival, artists are already working on New Year pictures for the following year. These are known as *yangliuqing* from the place southwest of Tianjin where they have been produced ever since the early seventeenth century. Beauties and plump children, symbols of happiness and good luck, grace these treasured woodblock pictures which are all printed in the traditional way, then touched up by hand. This particular type is characterized by the pink and gold used for the faces.
Tianjin; photo by Cui Shuncai



◁
Students of the Academy of Fine Arts practise drawing from life with the aid of a model. Even now, it takes a great deal of courage for a girl to engage in this kind of work, which is totally alien to traditional Chinese moral concepts. But slowly the realization is spreading that nude models too are helping to create art and that there is nothing underhand or immoral in what they are doing.
Lanzhou, Gansu; photo by Cao Wu



△ Moulded with the hands from natural clay, these tiny animal figurines have a strong rustic flavour. Their very simplicity has something archaic about it, reminding us of the shapes which prehistoric craftsmen also made from such rudimentary materials.
Junxian County, Henan; photo by Zhu Qinghe

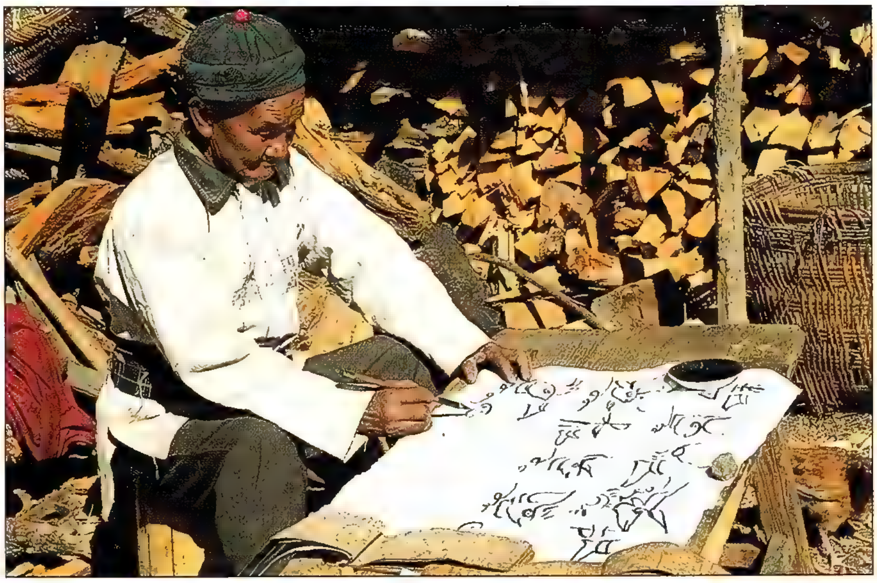


△ Shooting for the film *The Founding of the People's Republic* is being carried out today in the township of Xikou, the site of Chiang Kai-shek's family residence and his ancestral tombs. The film-loving Chinese crowd around to watch the fun, bikes and all, but the armed soldiers blocking their way are just extras.
Fenghua County, Zhejiang; photo by Zheng Fuhai

◁
Using rattan vines and tree roots gathered from the mountains and forests, this elderly man of the Tujia nationality who lives in the Wulingyuan Scenic Area devotes his time to producing walking sticks and root carvings. From the original shape of the wood, with a little judicious trimming and carving as necessary, he devises works of great originality.
Yongshun County, Hunan; photo by Huang He

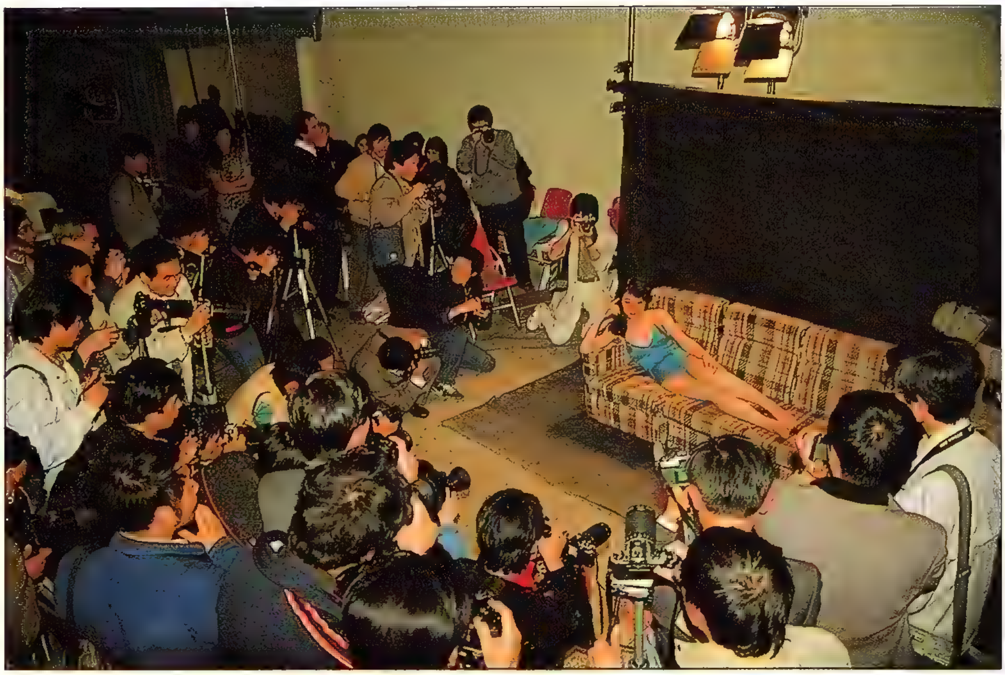
◁
A thousand-armed Avalokitesvara, the Bodhisattva of Compassion, is under restoration in the compound of the restructured Longhua Monastery in the Longhua Scenic Zone. This form of the Bodhisattva, known in its more sinicized form as Guanyin, the Goddess of Mercy, is said to symbolize omnipotence.
Shanghai; photo by Xu Zhigang

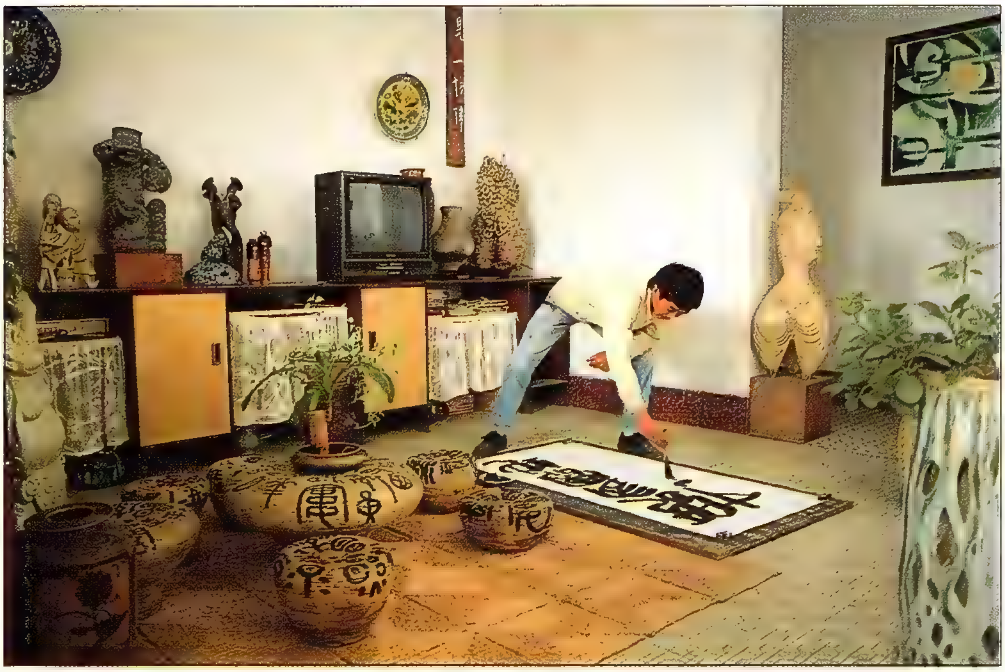
◁
Street artists who once specialized in turning out dough figurines of such popular folk heroes as Monkey and Pigsy from the classic *Journey to the West* — to the delight of countless children — are going modern. New-look dough figurines include green-uniformed postmen and cartoon figures. But the children still snap them up!
Xiamen, Fujian; photo by Li Shiping



◁
A *dongba*, a shaman of the Naxi nationality, copies an inscription in the unique ancient pictographic script. Sadly, the ideographs are now decipherable only by a few dozen people, although aspects of the associated *dongba* culture are being researched assiduously, in particular in Lijiang, centre of the Naxi people.
Zhongdian, Yunnan; photo by Luo Jinhui

▽ Photography is also art, although it is debatable whether all the uses to which it is put can qualify as such! Enthusiasts will utilize any opportunity to get the best shots, and if they have a pretty and willing model to hand on whom to experiment with focal lengths and so on, they'll make the most of it....
Fuzhou, Fujian; photo by Lin Jian

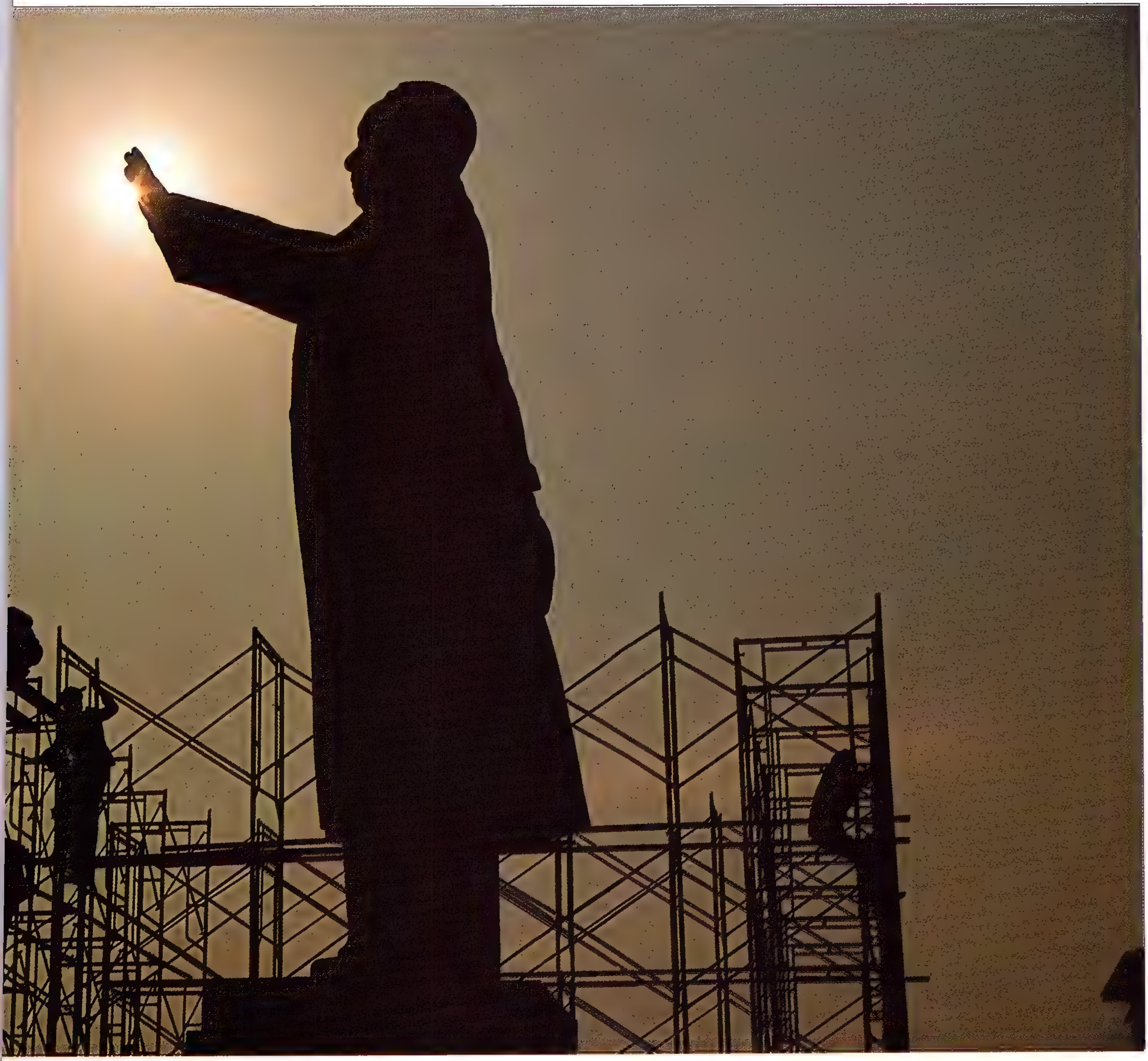




△ Mei Wending is a professional artist in the ceramics field. However, drawing inspiration from the ancient craft of seal-carving, he is experimenting with a fusion of calligraphy and pottery-making techniques. He practises his calligraphy at home, intent on finding a new vehicle for his inspiration.
Foshan, Guangdong; photo by Yang Yaotong

▽ The massive sculpture has stood here for many years but, today, the moment has finally come. It is to be taken down to make way for, who knows, some other more relevant sculpture. Art also reflects social developments.
Fuzhou, Fujian; photo by Lin Jian

Translated by Ren Jiazhen



Earning a Living in China

TEXT BY
DONG SHAN

1989
三 MARCH 月
15
星期三 WEDNESDAY
己巳年二月初八
ONE DAY IN CHINA

In Chinese history, ordinary people were classified roughly according to the four following categories: officials, farmers, craftsmen/labourers and merchants. The order was deliberate! Despite their crucial importance in the social fibre from earliest times, merchants have traditionally ranked low in status.

It is strange to think that, as long ago as the 'Legalist' reformers of the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.), there was already considerable hostility towards merchants, who were considered to be exploiters, dealers in pointless luxuries. For the Taoists, too, luxury and therefore those who sold it was a source of disorder — and besides, the whole idea of wheeling and dealing was anathema to their philosophy.

Despite the fact that taxes on commercial activities swelled the coffers of state, rulers of the past often felt that merchants' wealth enabled them to dominate the poor, to buy up farmers' land and then take advantage of the dispossessed. As early as 199 B.C. in the Western Han dynasty, measures were taken to control their lifestyle: they were forbidden to wear silk, ride horses or bear arms.

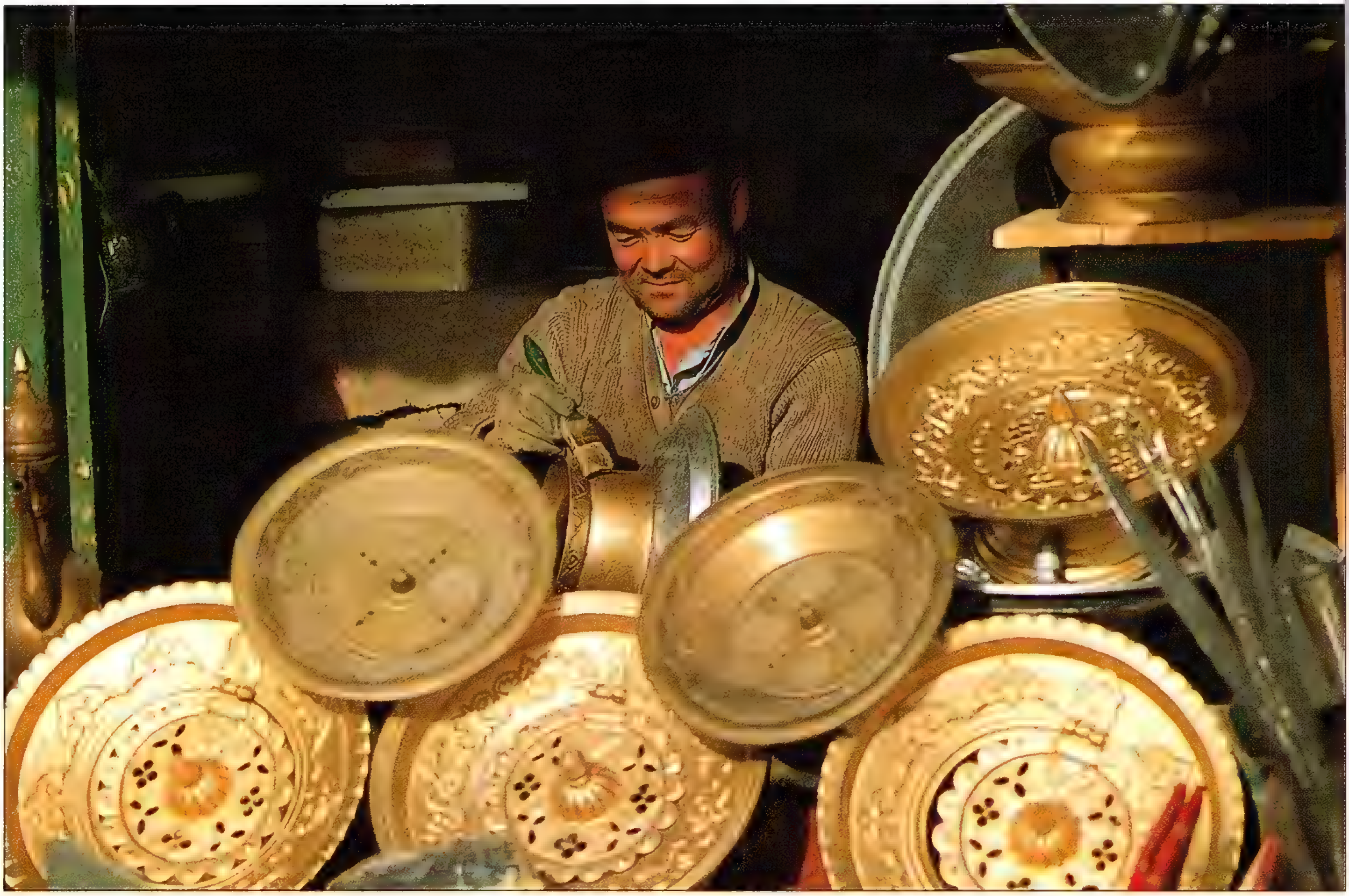
In modern times, the fortunes of those involved in business and trade — at all levels — have fluctuated wildly depending on the government attitude of the moment; at one time they may be considered necessary and inevitable, at others a blot on society, corrupt and grasping.

Nowadays, although the vast majority of the population is still organized in work units and employed in state-owned enterprises or in agriculture, the number of self-employed people and businesses in the private sector has grown steadily. And it is precisely the free traders and hawkers who add colour and interest for the visitor. But, of course, here as elsewhere in the world, many traditional occupations continue, essentially untouched by time.

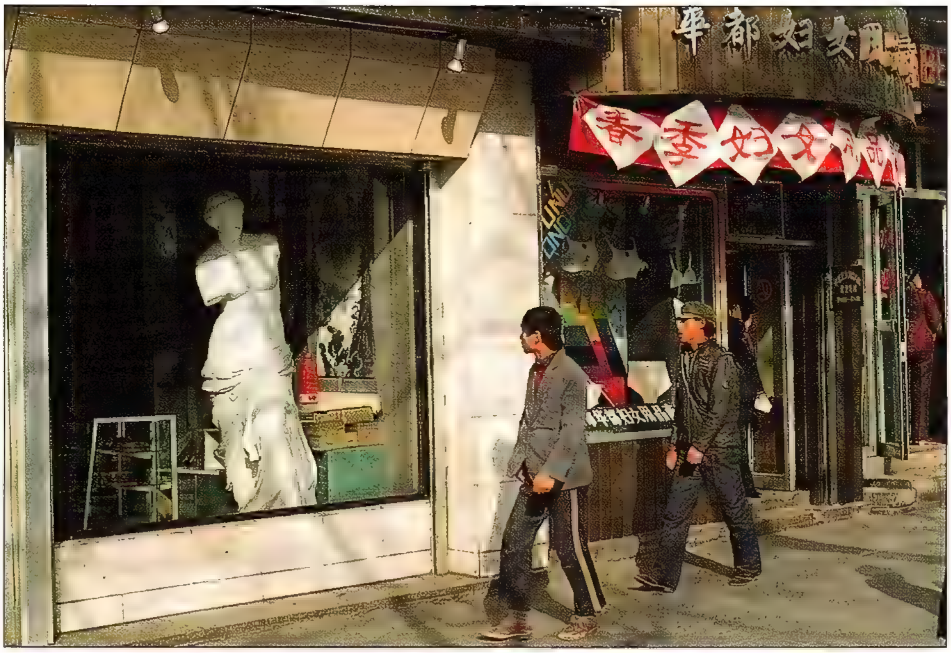
The rag trade in Shenzhen, Guangdong, by Liu Xuewen; a country stall in Baoji County, Shaanxi, by Qiu Xiaoming; fishing fleet in Beihai, Guangxi, by Hu Yongchang; market-gardening in Fengxiang County, Shaanxi, by Shi Baoxiu

Street-Smart in the City

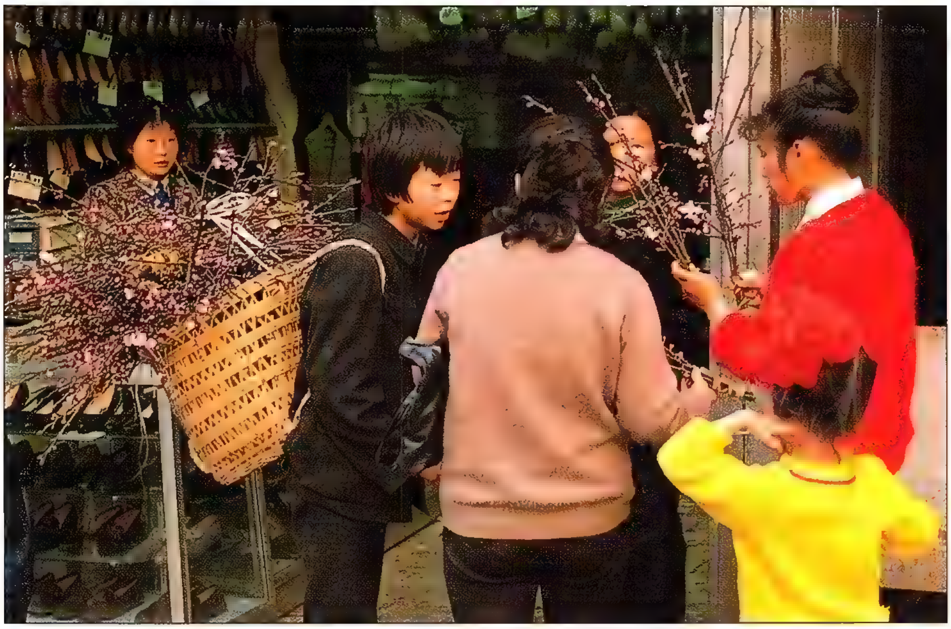
You need to be quick-thinking and resourceful to find a niche in the city if you are not covered by the state's 'iron rice-bowl'.



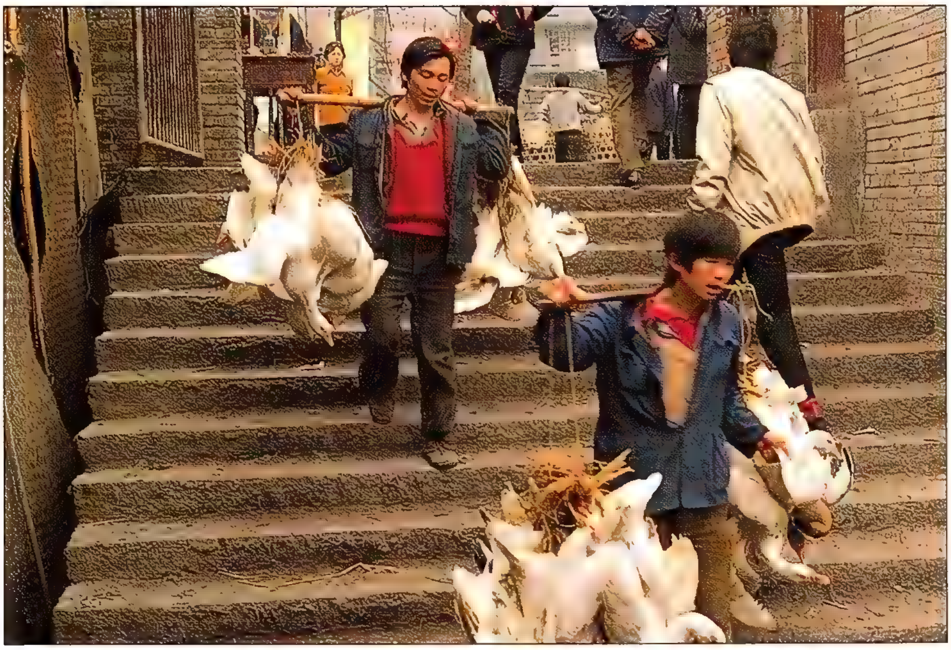
△
Ornate though they are, with beautiful engraved patterns, these copper sweet dishes were not finding buyers. Versed in all the tricks of his trade, this Uygur vendor is therefore adding to their lustre with a coat of bronze paint. Now they'll sell well!
Kashi (Kashgar), Xinjiang; photo by Bao Di



◁
In Beijing's busiest shopping street, Wangfujing, visitors in from the country pass from a display of ladies' underwear to a statue of the Venus de Milo — the latter advertising an artists' goods shop. From the vaguely ridiculous to the sublime?
Beijing; photo by Wang Wenyang



◁
In March, in southwest China, the wind chases off the cold and the rains have not yet come. Once peach blossoms appear on trees in villages on the outskirts of Chongqing, it is only a short interval before flowering sprays appear in the city streets to be sold by enterprising children. Such welcome signs of spring are snapped up like hot cakes.
Chongqing, Sichuan; photo by Su Yang



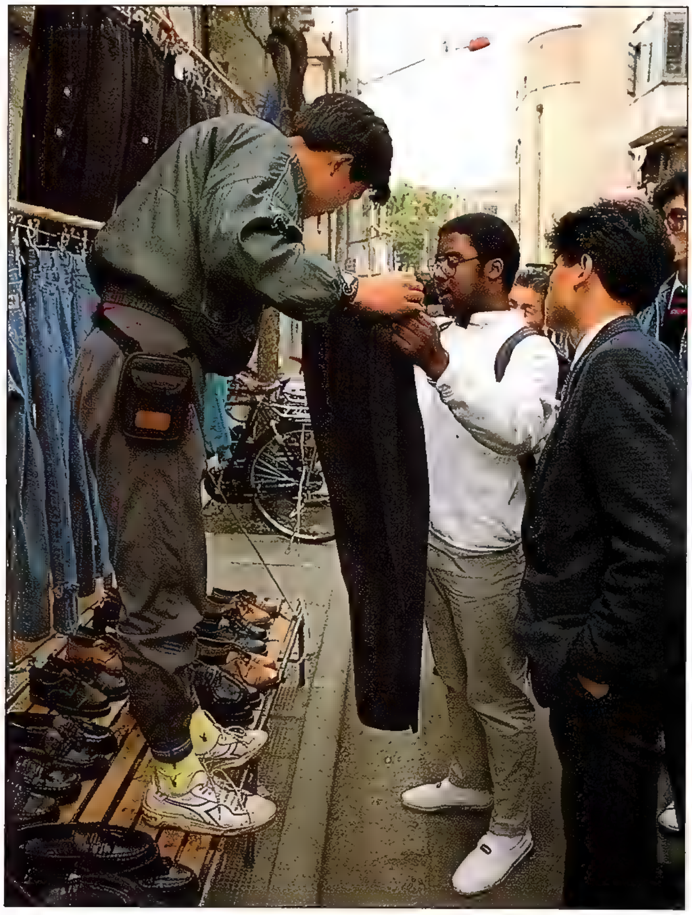
◁
In China, where refrigerators are still rare, the freshness of foodstuffs is a very important factor for the housewife. Ducks, geese and other poultry are generally carried to market live (and complaining) and killed on the spot as soon as a deal is struck.
Chongqing, Sichuan; photo by Su Yang

▷
A market economy favours clever entrepreneurs. All sorts of trades and commercial undertakings can mushroom and prosper. This man has had the ingenious idea of breeding white mice for medical experiments. Since nobody else had thought of doing this before, he currently enjoys a monopoly in his home city.
Wuhan, Hubei; photo by Xie Lixing

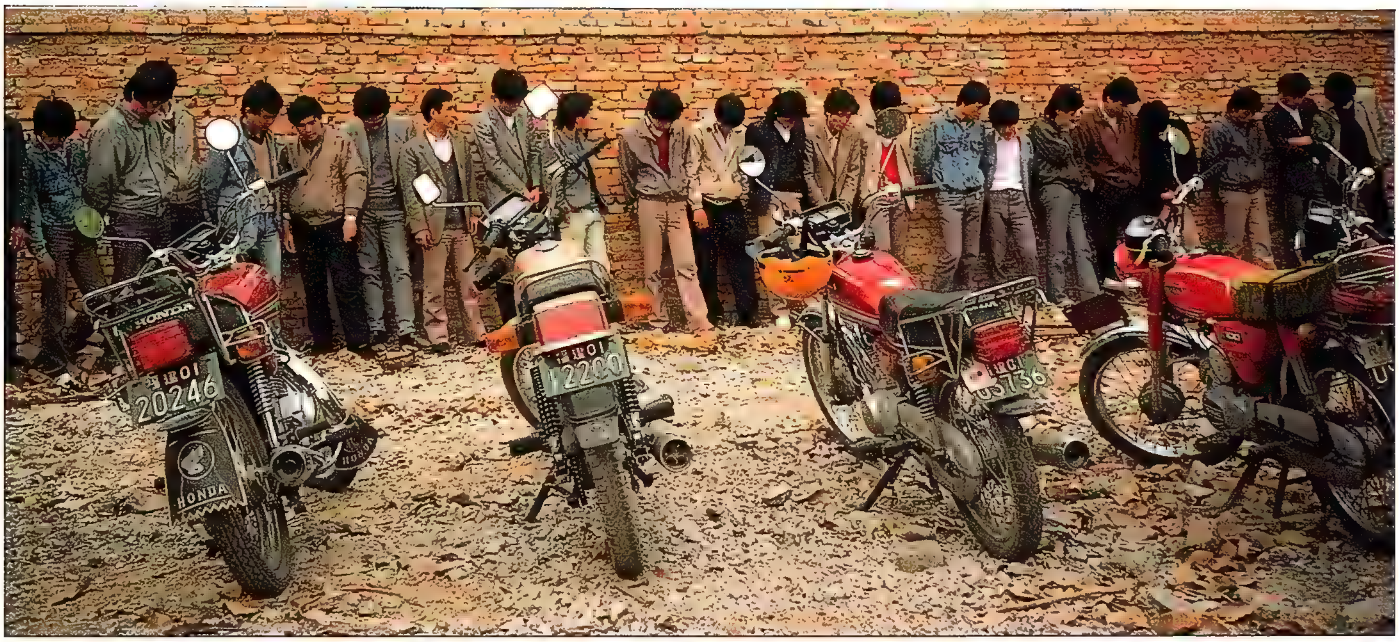
▷
People seem to have developed a craze for cut flowers these days in Shanghai, the great trading port city renowned for its open-door policy. Flowers are bought as presents for friends or when visiting an invalid in hospital instead of a box of cakes as in the past.
Shanghai; photo by Yang Kelin

NISSAN
BLUEBIRD

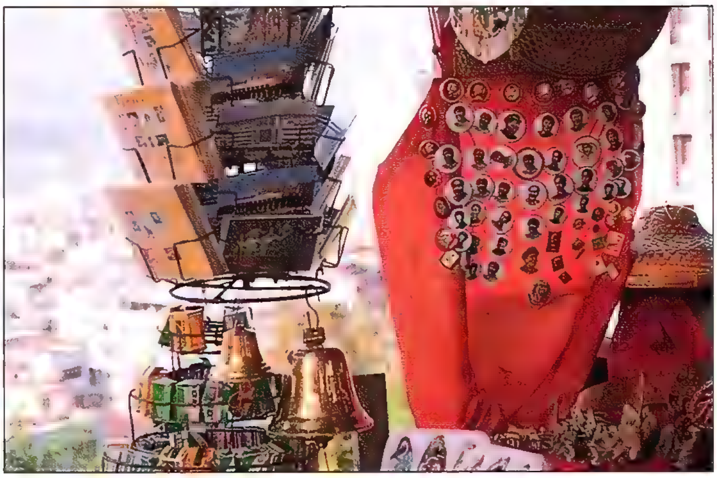
▷
A young pedlar bargains vociferously at his tiny streetside stall. Skills such as his are common all over the world wherever there is a free market. The eloquence of the born salesman transcends all barriers, linguistic and cultural.
Shanghai; photo by Xu Zhigang



▽ The police in Fuzhou are having to come down hard on profiteers and smugglers these days. Crestfallen culprits, caught red-handed, wait to be interrogated and possibly sent for sentencing. Unhappily, many of the areas which can be said to be bastions of free enterprise, such as the open coastal cities and special economic zones of southern and southeastern China, tend to attract people ready to take a risk and use underhand methods for a quick profit.
Fuzhou, Fujian; photo by Lin Xiaoyu



ROLEX
OMEGA
SEIKO

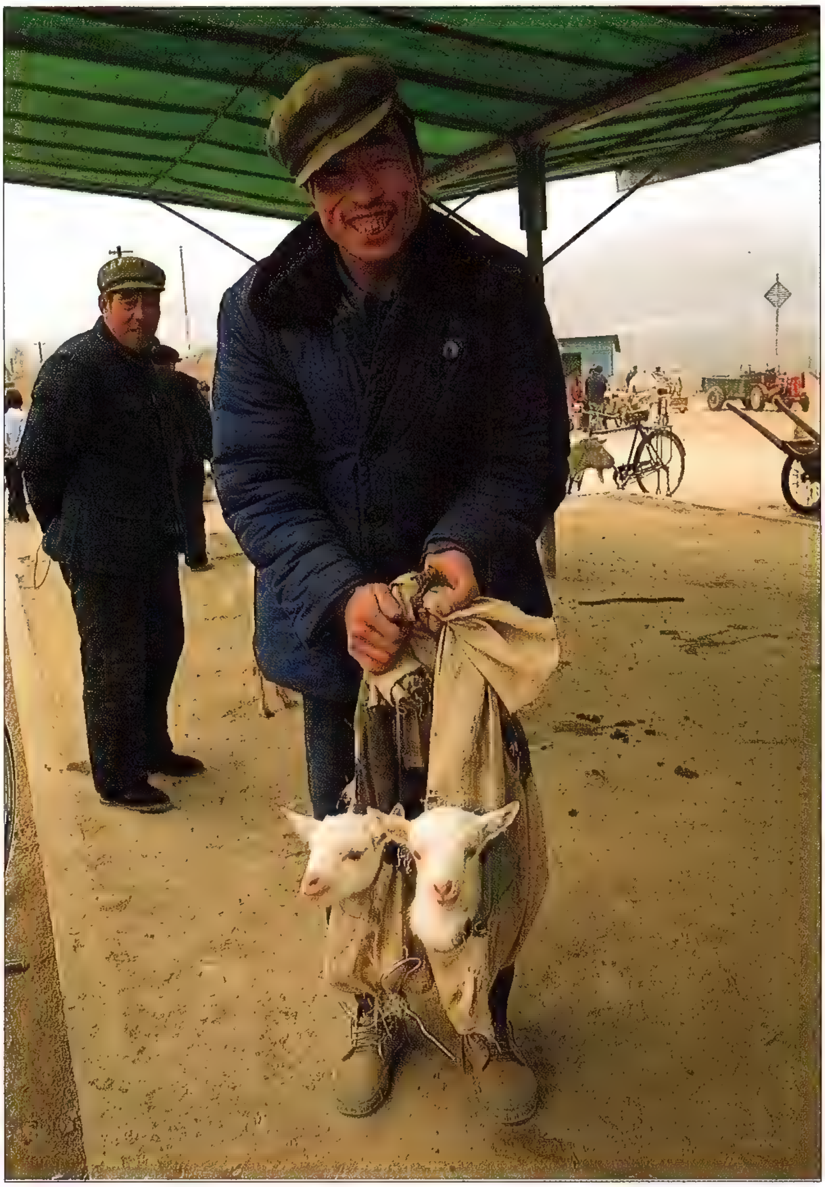


△ Among the bits and pieces in a souvenir shop, the display of Mao badges stands out. Obviously this stall owner knows what will catch the foreign tourist's eye....
Macau; photo by Wong Chung Fai

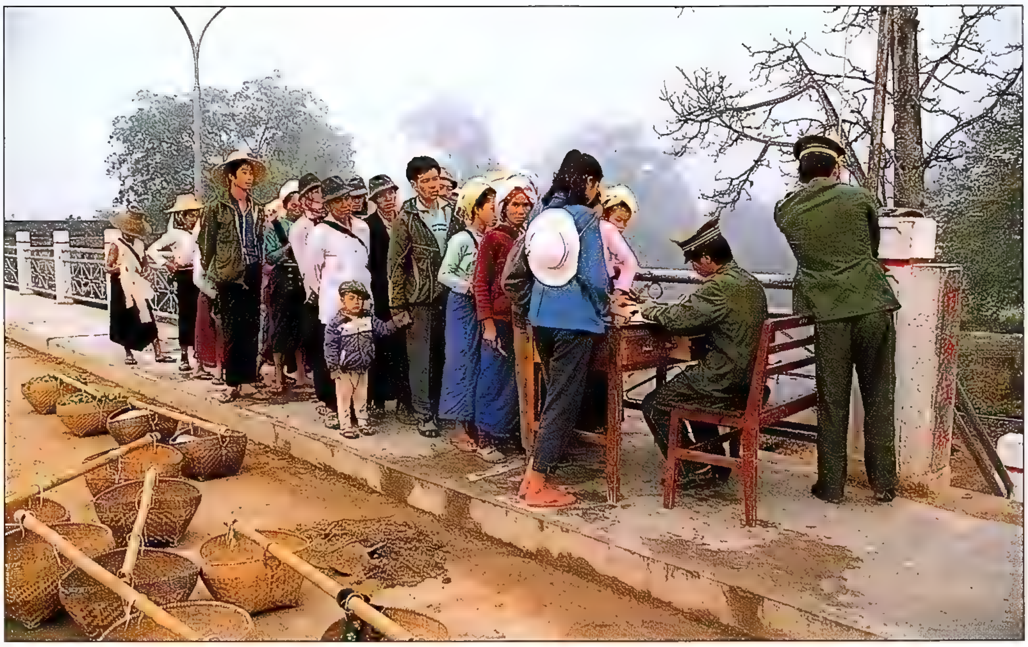
◁ Shatoujiao (Shataukok) is a strange place with a split personality. It straddles the border, so that one side of its Zhongying (Chinese-English) Street is in China, the other under the jurisdiction of Hong Kong. A shopping paradise, it draws large crowds of mainlanders, especially from the north, intent on a bargain or on purchasing a luxury difficult to obtain elsewhere.
Shenzhen, Guangdong; photo by Liu Xuewen

Rural Markets — Changing Only Slowly

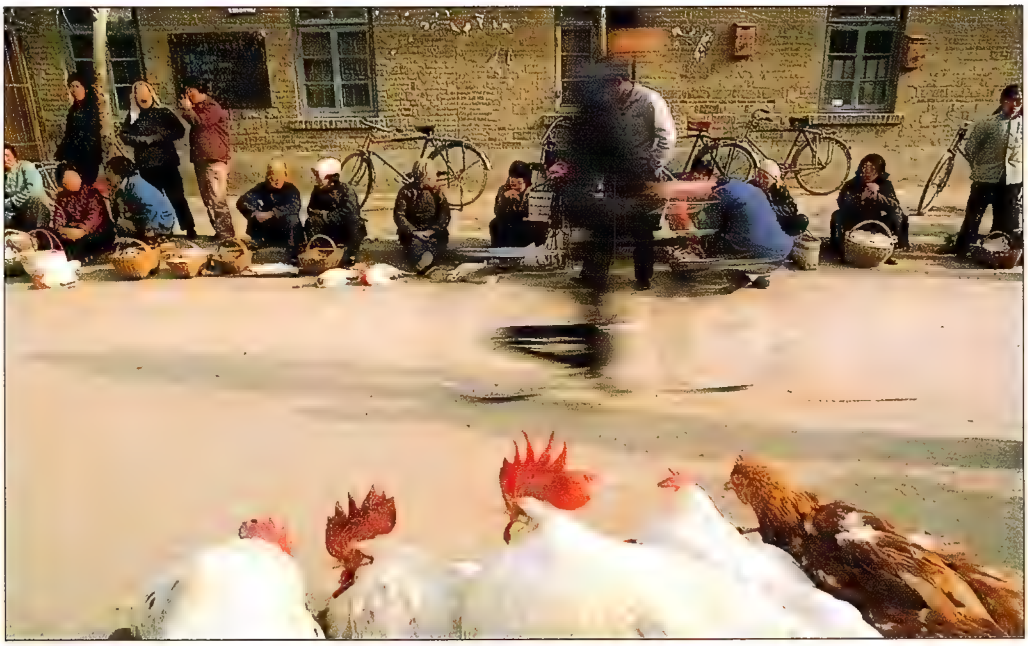
Out in the countryside, itinerant hawkers serve a very real purpose, offering what is sometimes the only possibility for local people to purchase everyday commodities.



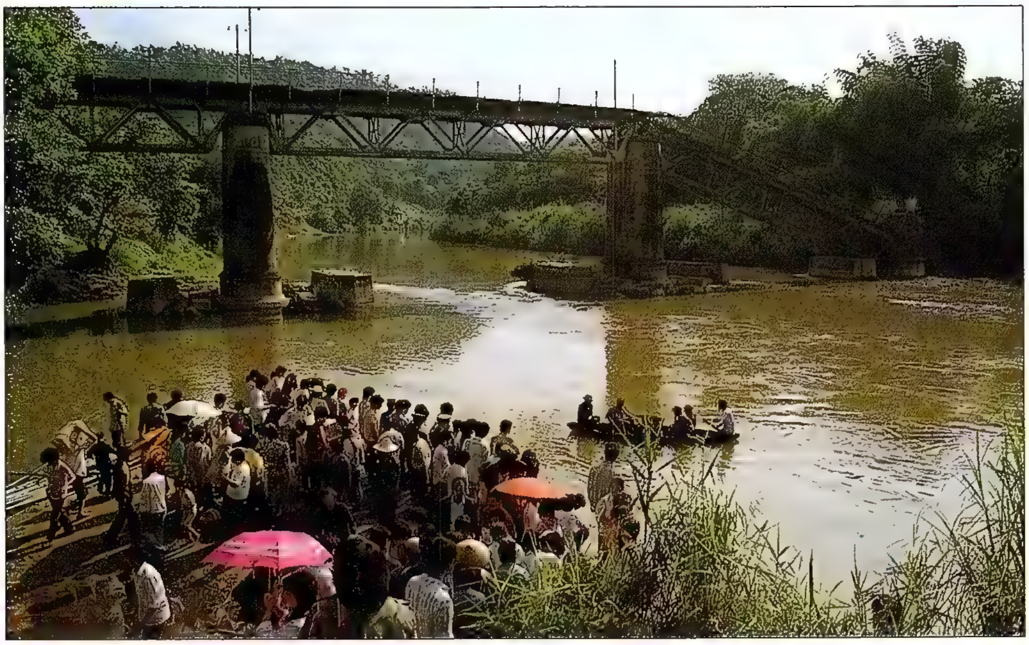
△
Livestock may be brought to market by tractor, jeep or bicycle, but this seller has made a carrier out of sacking for his two fine kids. The eventual purchaser will also have an easier time getting them home, slung around his neck or over one shoulder.
Qianyang County, Shaanxi; photo by Shi Baoxiu



◁
From early in the morning, Burmese people troop across the border bridge and wait in a patient line for the official formalities to be completed. Once inside China they will head for the nearest market to buy and sell. This is no longer an unusual sight in Xishuangbanna, where their presence adds another strand to the ethnic diversity of the region.
Menghai County, Yunnan; photo by Chen Ding'an



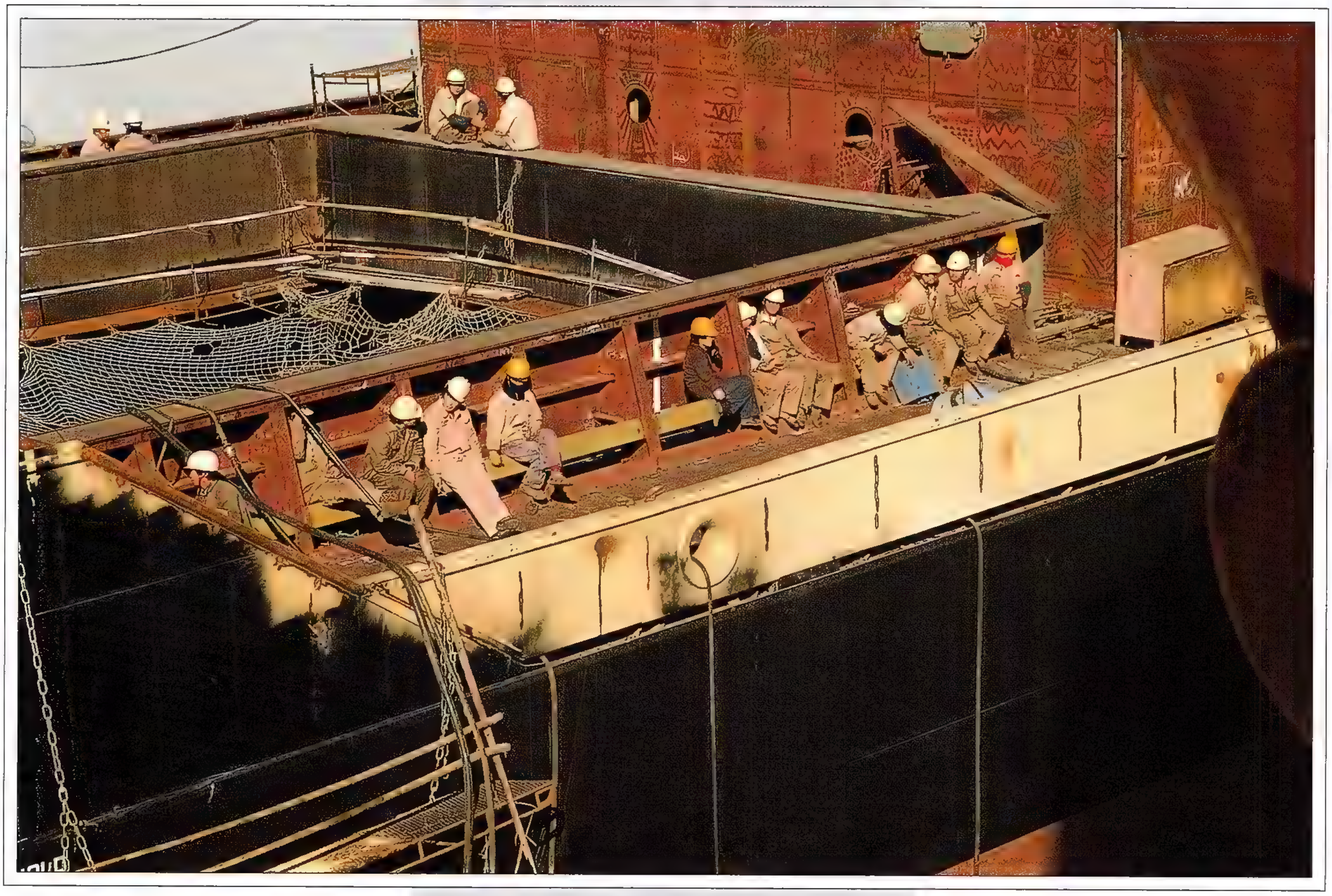
◁
A common everyday sight in rural China, hawkers sit peacefully by the roadside to sell their goods. In this case, they are offering live cockerels and hens, both for breeding and laying and for the pot, as well as eggs.
Lintong County, Shaanxi; photo by Hou Dengke



◁
At yet another river frontier, this time further to the southeast, Vietnamese from the border areas queue to take the small ferry back to their homes after a successful day's trading. The ruined railway bridge in the background once carried the famous line between Hanoi and Kunming.
Hekou Yao Autonomous County, Yunnan; photo by Shao Zibo

Occupations Traditional and Modern

Shepherd and beautician, farmer and dockyard worker — they all have their own place in life and their own satisfactions.



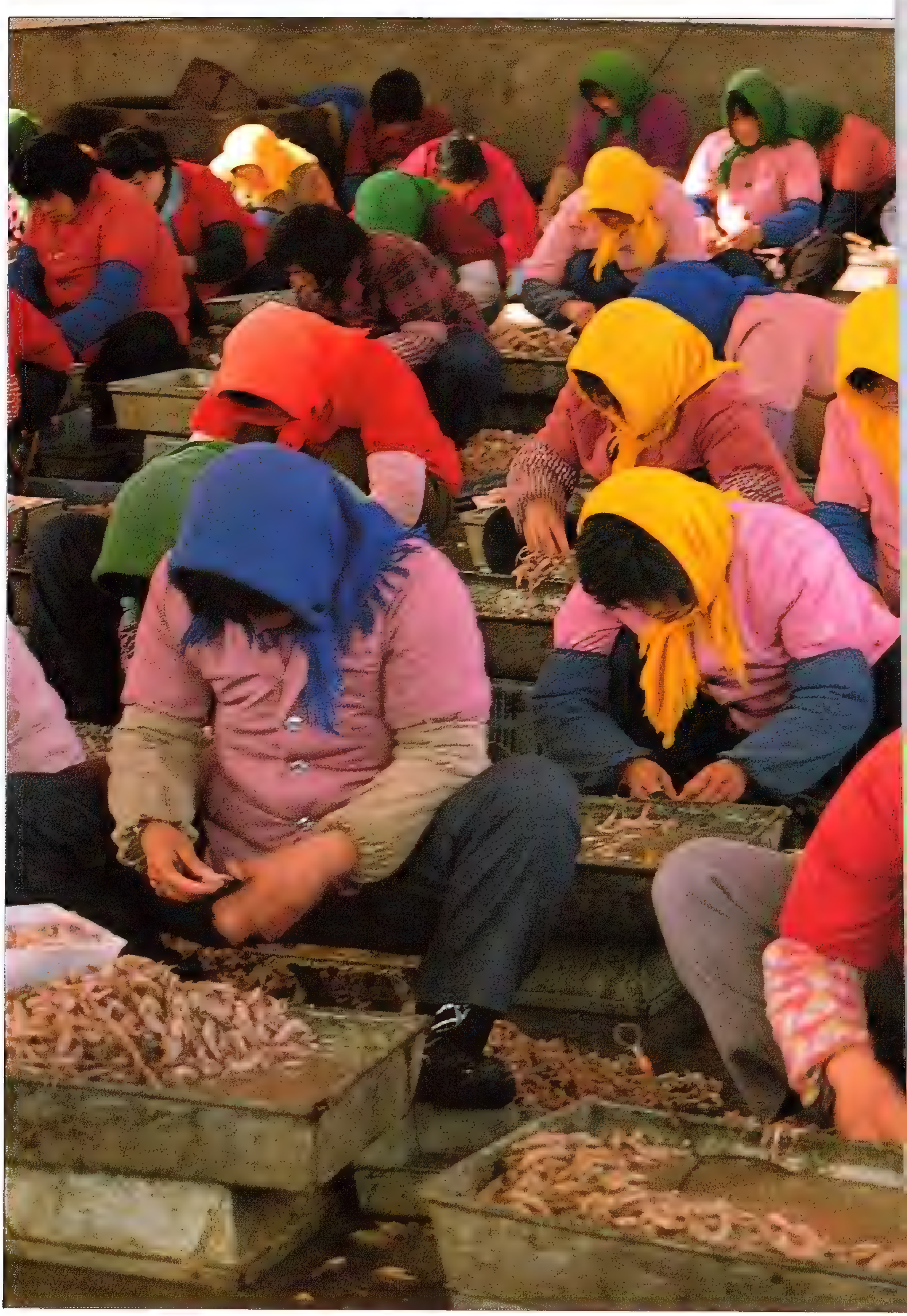
△
The ship is in for a complete overhaul. In the dry dock at the port of Tianjin, one of China's largest, the early shift takes time out to enjoy the warm spring sun before getting back to work.
Tianjin; photo by Dong Yanqing

▽ A pastoral scene from deep in the countryside. With bare rock on one side, the burbling stream on the other, a shepherd and his family watch over their flock of sheep at their leisure. The animals cannot stray far, and there is enough scrub on the hillside to keep them satisfied for a while.
Wenxian County, Gansu; photo by Ma Guangyu

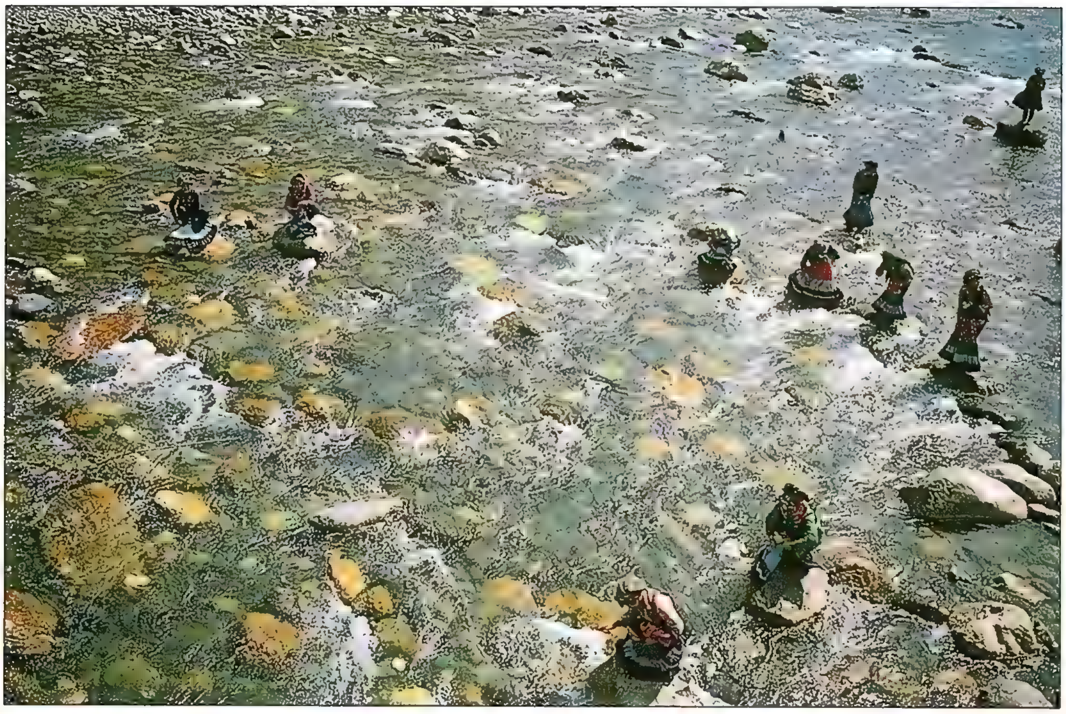
△ In this part of Liaoning, where most of the inhabitants are Manchu, donkeys really do carry out the donkey-work. In this case, the obedient beast continues with its task of turning the mill wheel to grind the corn, leaving the farmer's wife who is supervising operations with little to do but feed grain into the mill and collect the flour.
Xiuyan Manchu Autonomous County, Liaoning; photo by Zhu Gongfu

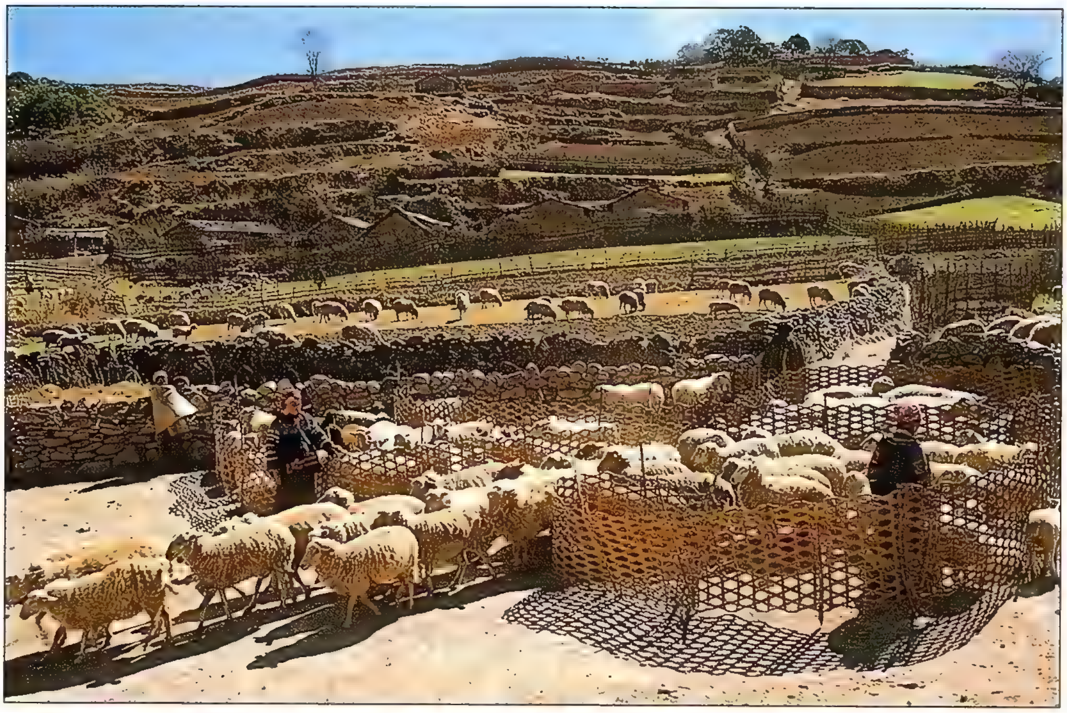
△ Women all over the world share a common desire to make the best of their appearance. Apart from up-to-date hairstyling, beauty treatments and cosmetic counselling are now becoming much more popular in China, especially in Shanghai, known for its more progressive approach to life
Shanghai; photo by Yang Kelin

▽ While the men of the fishing village are out at sea, their womenfolk are engrossed in work of another kind. They sit huddled, deveining and grading prawns at the local marine products processing factory.
Weihai, Shandong; photo by Cong Xianting

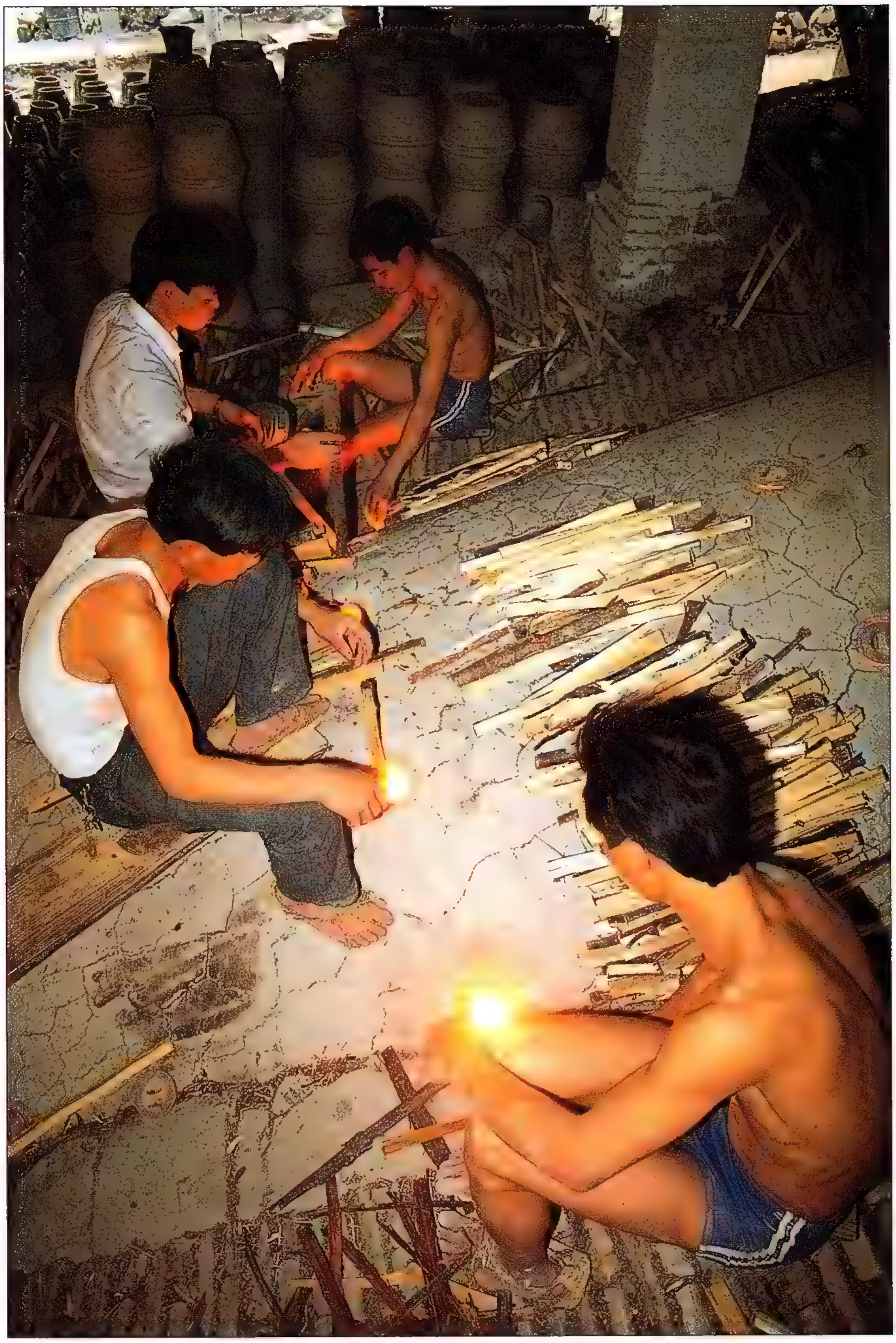


▽ The clear mountain brook flows swiftly over the pebbles and boulders in its bed, providing an ideal place for Yi women to do their laundry. It is a big job to wash their heavy, swirling pleated skirts, but they must be made ready for the festivities to come.
Ganluo County, Sichuan; photo by Zhong Dakun





△ The sun strikes the woven bamboo palisades at a steep angle, throwing a delicate tracery of shadow on to the ground. Here, deep in the Liangshan Mountains which rise to around 3,200 metres above sea-level, Yi people breed sheep for wool as they have done for countless generations.
Zhaojue County, Sichuan; photo by Leng Dengyi



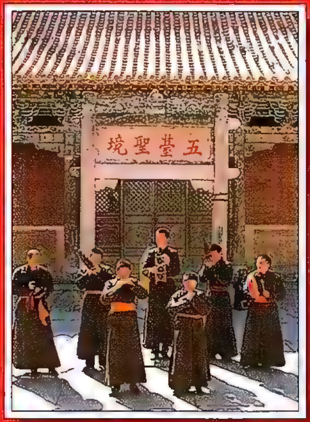
△ Workers feed firewood through the vents in the top of a kiln located beside the River Dongping in the ceramics town of Shiwan near Foshan. Although several hundred years old, the kiln still produces a batch of pottery every three days, but it needs almost five thousand kilos of wood per firing. Such traditional craft techniques have remained basically unchanged over the centuries.

Foshan, Guangdong; photo by Yang Yaotong

Translated by Wang Mingjie

Religious Beliefs, Country-Wide

TEXT BY DU KEDAC



1989
三 MARCH 月
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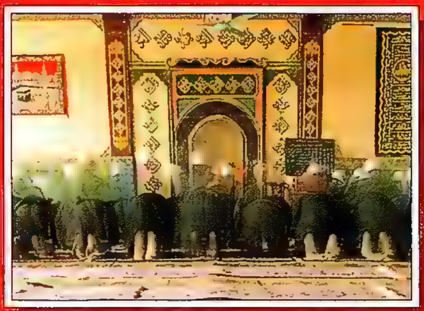
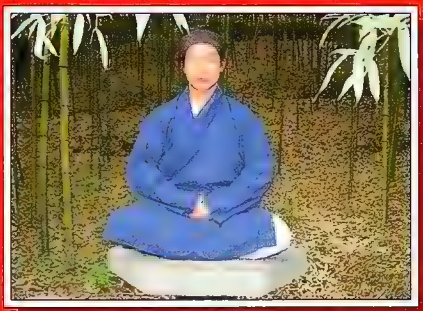
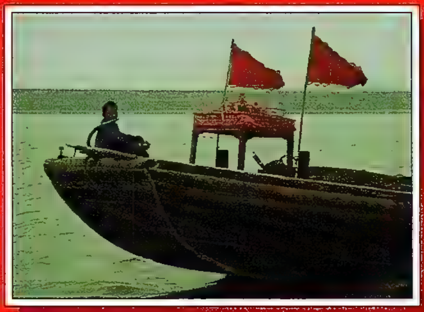
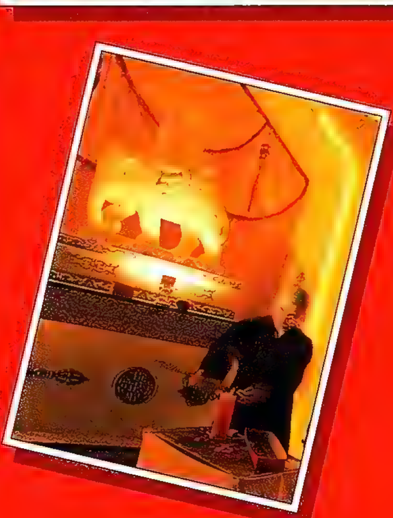








China is a country which has traditionally had many religions, sometimes in a relatively peaceful coexistence, sometimes with one or the other gaining the upper hand. Today, the old beliefs still linger; worshippers are by no means a rare sight, although they tend to belong to the older generation.

Taoism, Buddhism, Islam and Christianity all have national and local organizations to handle their own affairs, and most of them also have institutes for the training of clergy and researchers. It is impossible to give exact figures on the number of adherents of the various religions but Buddhism, together with its offshoot Tibetan Buddhism, is the major organized religion in China today. However, the values and beliefs of Taoism — the only religion indigenous to China — are still found everywhere in a complex fusion with folk religion. Shamanistic practices also survive among many of the minority peoples, often intermingled with aspects of Buddhism or Taoism, while Islam remains strong, especially in the northwest.

Our only regret is that we were unable to witness any Christian ceremonies — either Catholic or Protestant — on the Wednesday chosen for this project. Although there were Nestorians, a Syrian Christian sect, in the northwest as early as the seventh century and Jesuits gained influence at the imperial court in Beijing in the sixteenth century, Christianity found foot in China on a larger scale only in the late nineteenth century.

Musical monks on Mount Wutai, Shanxi, by Gu Di; Moslem worshippers in Tongxin County, Ningxia, by Wang Zheng; fishing boat shrine in Yugan County, Jiangxi, by Wu Dongshuang; meditating Taoist in Hubei by Liu Yanming; Fokuang Monastery near Kaohsiung, Taiwan, by Tsai Kuo-Yang

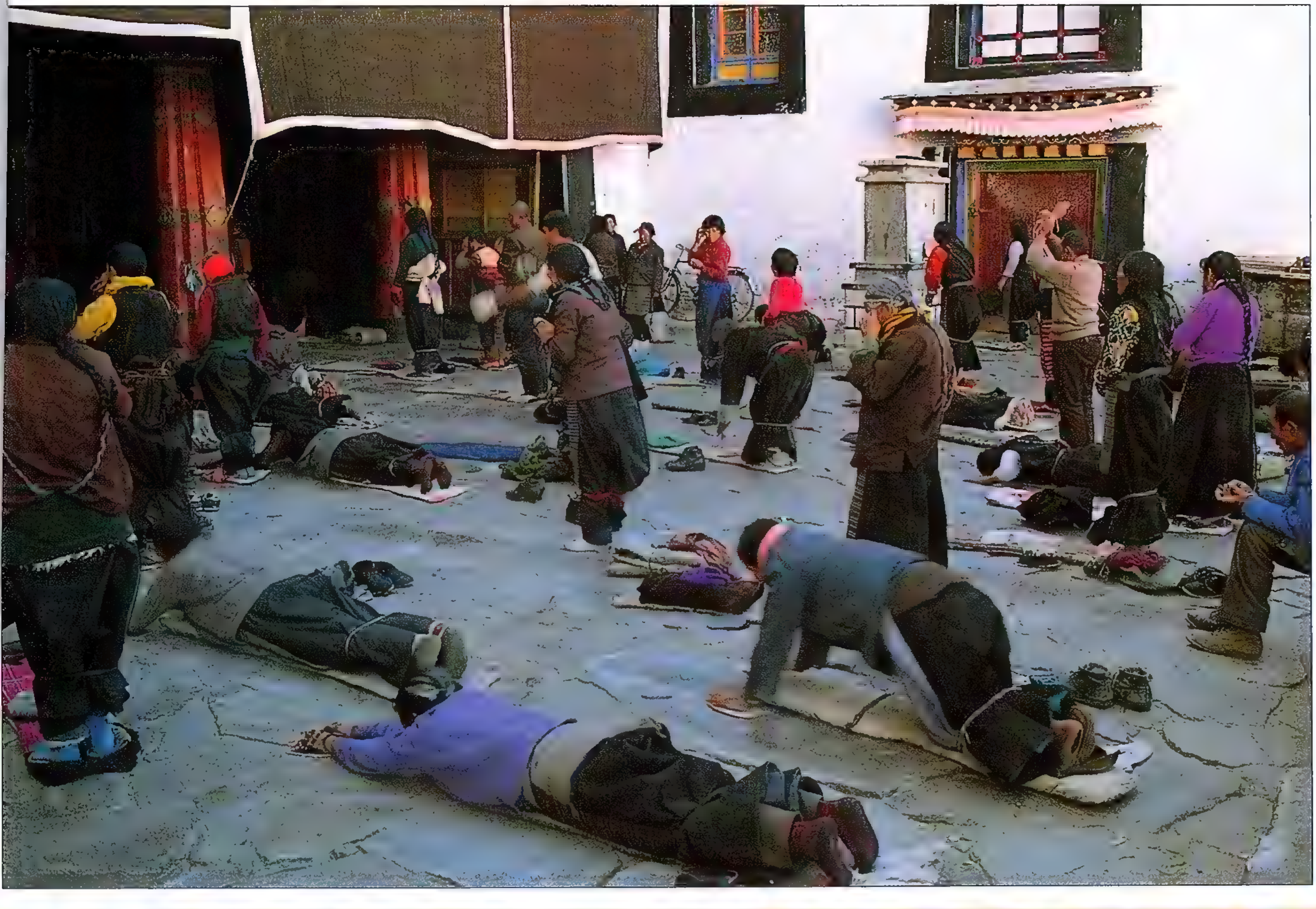
△ A Living Buddha from Inner Mongolia studies ancient scriptures at the Tibetan Buddhist College located in Beijing's Xihuang Temple. Such scriptures act as a link between the holy men of the past and today's devotees. A mixture of Buddhist doctrines introduced from India and China in the seventh century and the older Bon religion of Tibet, Tibetan Buddhism has developed characteristics of its own, and is now widespread not just in Tibet and Qinghai, but also in Inner Mongolia and among many smaller minorities such as the Moinba and Tu.
Beijing; photo by Fan Juquan

△ Mount Wutai (Five Terraces) rises to 3,000 metres above sea-level in northeastern Shanxi and is one of China's four sacred Buddhist mountains. This used to be among Asia's most important pilgrimage sites and there have been religious buildings here since the Eastern Han dynasty (25-220). In the fifteenth century many Tibetan and Mongolian monks and lamas also came to study on the mountain. Fifty-eight monasteries and temples have survived to the present day. Up here where the air is pure, where snow may linger on the peaks for much of the year, the monastic peace is perfect.
Mount Wutai, Shanxi; photo by Gu Di

◁ ▽

Religion permeates every aspect of life in Tibet. From early morning onwards, people come in a continuous flow to the Jokhang Temple, founded by Songtsan Gambo in 650, in the heart of Lhasa. There they prostrate full length outside this holy of holies. The devotees continue their worship by following the line of the old Lingkhor, a pilgrim circuit almost ten kilometres long, moving in a clockwise circle around the city of Lhasa from the east, down to the Lhasa River, around Chagpori (Medicine King) Hill and past the Potala Palace. Turning prayer wheels, praying before chortens and piles of mani stones, they accumulate merit for future reincarnations.

Lhasa, Tibet; photos by Che Gang and Cai Long



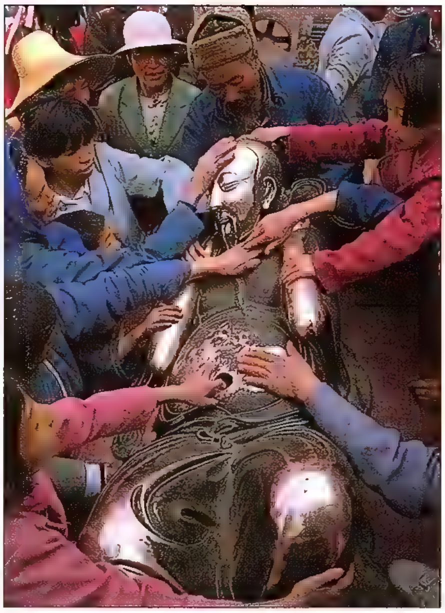
△ ▽ Around ten of the minority peoples found in China's north, northwest and southwest — including the Hui, Salar, Uygurs, Kazaks, Tajiks and Kirgiz — are devout followers of Islam. The religion was introduced to China by Arab merchants in the south only a short time after its founding in the seventh century. Five times a day, at dawn, at noon, in the afternoon, at dusk and in the evening, Chinese Moslems turn to the west (the direction of the holy city of Mecca) and pray to Allah. Before worshipping, they must wash their face, hands and feet by way of ritual purification in the special area provided at the mosque. There are roughly ten million Moslems in China.

Ningxia; photos by Shi Guanda and Wang Zheng

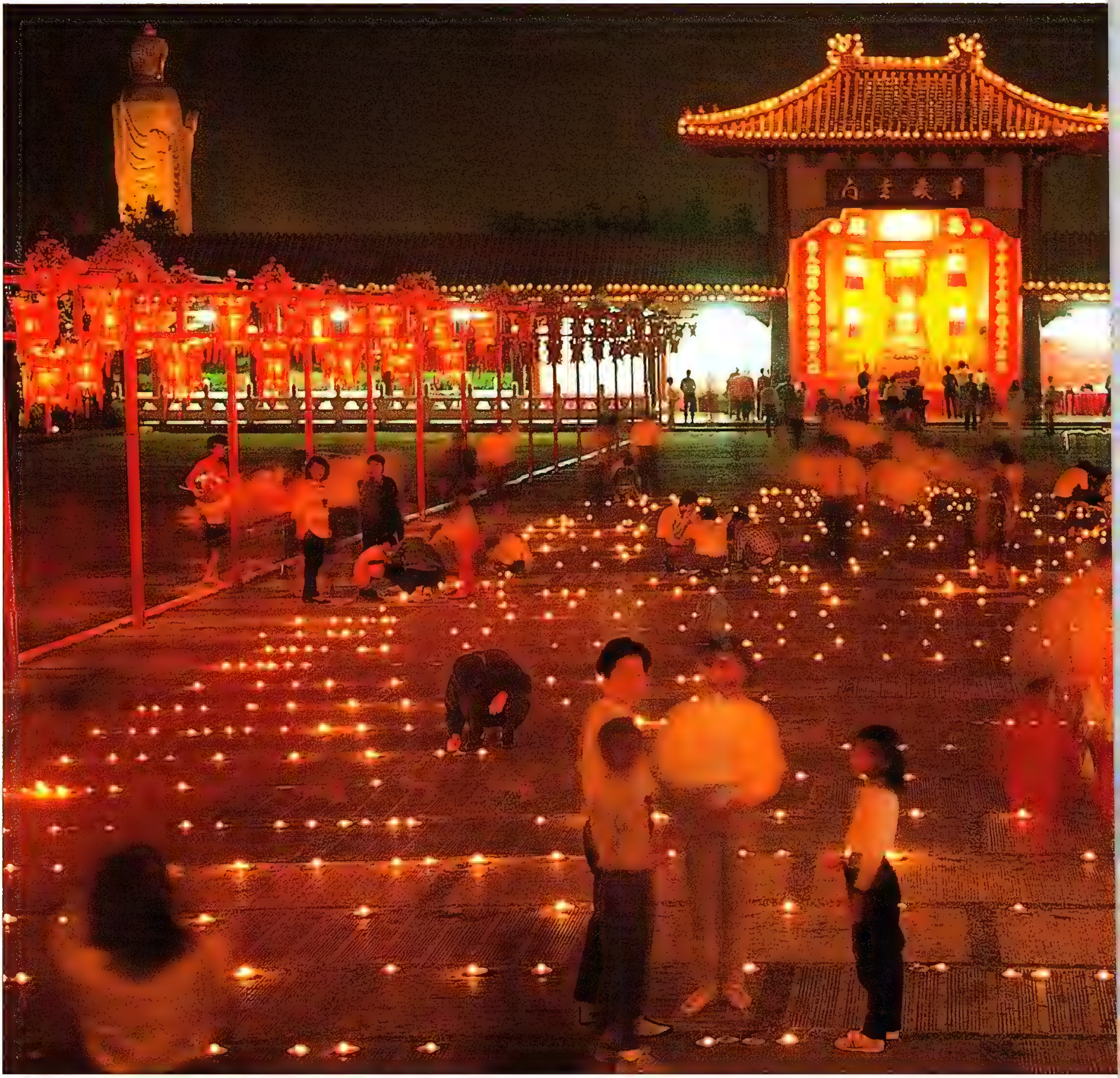
▷ The town of Ruihong in Yugan County is set beside Lake Poyang, China's largest freshwater lake, with an area of 3,583 square kilometres. Ruihong's peaceful atmosphere is brought out by the rays of the setting sun as they softly illuminate the incense shops where the fishermen who live on the lake buy necessities for the shrines they set up on their boats.

Yugan County, Jiangxi; photo by Wu Dongshuang

▷
Taoism can be said to be China's only truly indigenous religion, made official during the Eastern Han dynasty (25-220), although its roots are very much more ancient. In line with the generally pragmatic Chinese approach to religion, Taoism incorporated certain aspects of Buddhism when the latter was introduced from India while at the same time influencing the way Buddhism itself developed in China, particularly as regards the Chan (Zen) sect. Taoist adepts bent on following *dao* (the Way) tend to seek out places where they can live a simple life in harmony with nature.
Mount Wudang, Hubei; photo by Tao Debin

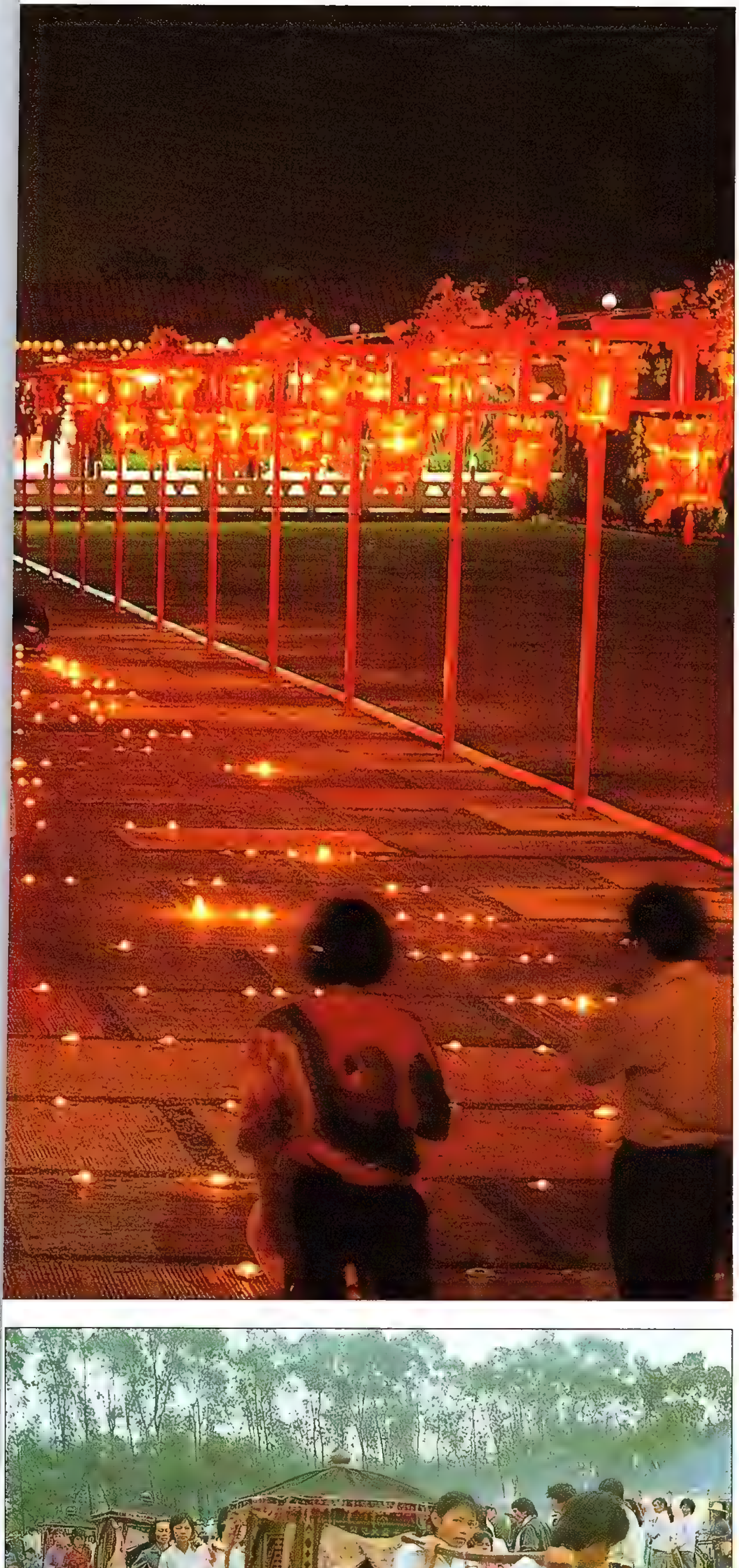


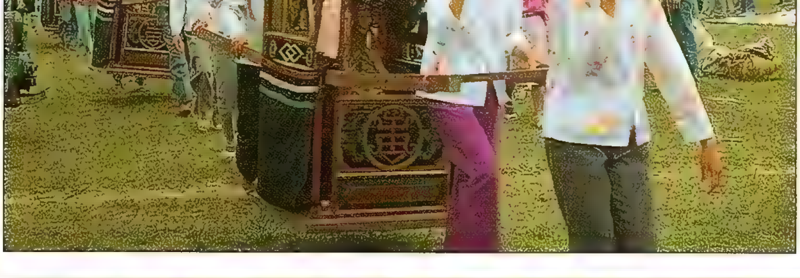
◁
At Longhua Fair, held every year at the Memorial Temple of Zhang Sanfeng (a Ming-dynasty Taoist priest who is credited with creating the famous Wudang school of martial arts), people flock to touch or stroke the bronze statue of the sage Gao Xuejun. This is thought to bring them success in everything they do and confer protection against disease and misfortune.
Yao'an County, Yunnan; photo by He Fangnan



△ As night falls, the Mahavira Hall of Fokuang (Buddhist Light) Monastery in the hills thirty-five kilometres northeast of Kaohsiung is bathed in a sea of light. A magnificent complex of pagodas, pavilions, libraries and meditation halls, this is the centre of Buddhist studies in Taiwan and boasts a gilded statue of Amitabha thirty metres tall. Our project date fell in the busiest season around the Spring Festival, when pilgrims flock to the monastery and all its halls bustle with activity.
Kaohsiung, Taiwan, photo by Tsai Kuo-Yang

▷ Wooden sedan-chairs jostle their way through the market as though they were bearing courtesans of old come to make purchases. But the lifted curtain reveals no human being but a wooden Bodhisattva, seated bolt upright.... It is as though a divine presence has come among the villagers to bless their traditional Naojunpo Festival, when chicken coops are bought to encourage the chickens to grow fat, and grain baskets to encourage the cereals to sprout higher in the fields.
Wenchang County, Hainan; photo by Lin Hongping





▽
At the Xizhu Garden Nunnery west of the riverside city of Wuzhou, a nun chants, lost to the world. Although, once fully admitted into the monastic life, a monk or nun places him or herself at Buddha's service, this is not just a matter of cultivation of the soul and attention to spiritual matters. Most religious communities also till the land to grow their own crops and engage in forestry or make handicrafts to bring in some income. Different sects vary in their organization, but a monastery or nunnery generally has an abbot, a resident superintendant, and monks and nuns appointed to specific duties, as well as novices and attached lay devotees.
Wuzhou, Guangxi; photo by Qin Jiang

Translated by Gu Weizhou

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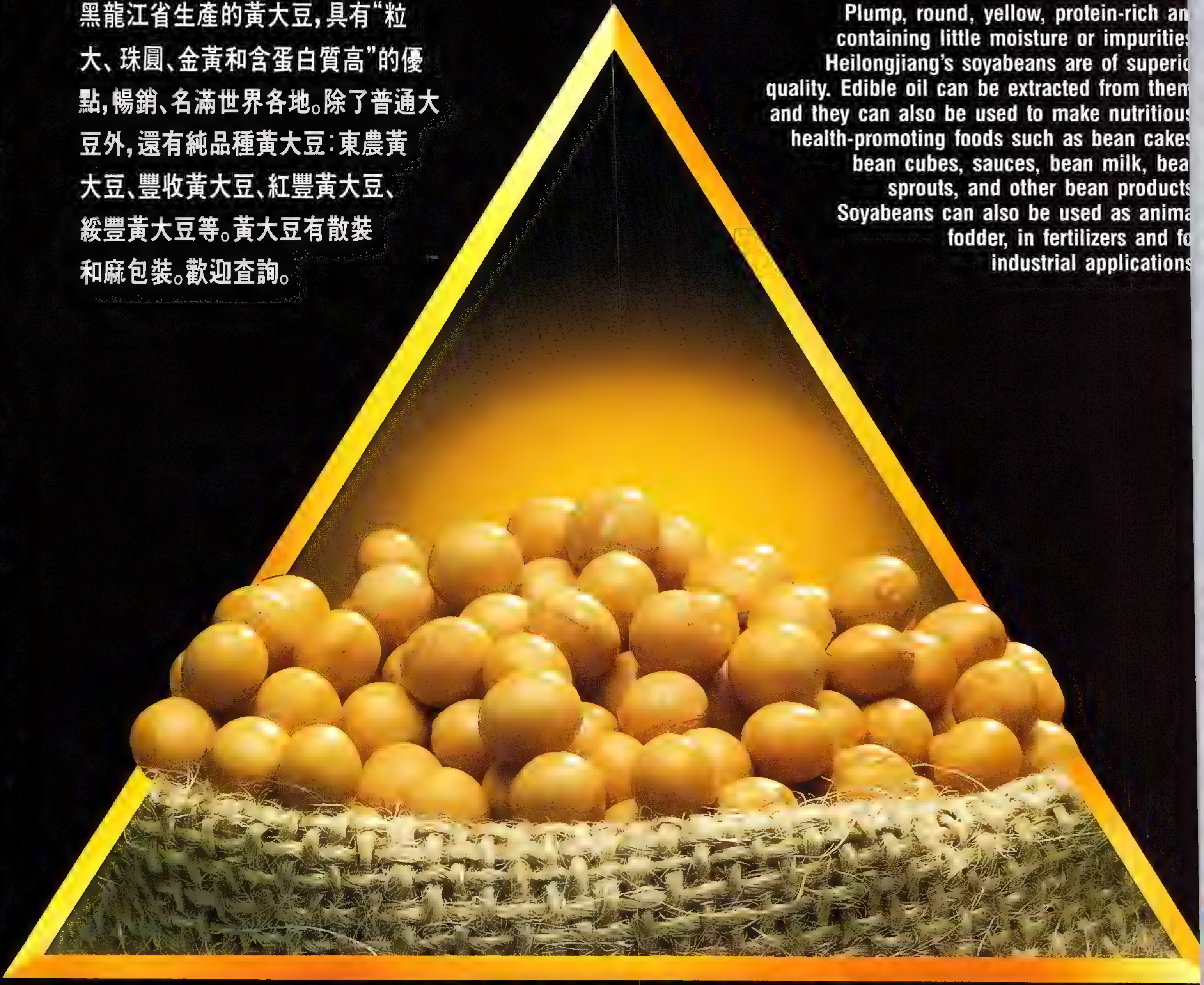

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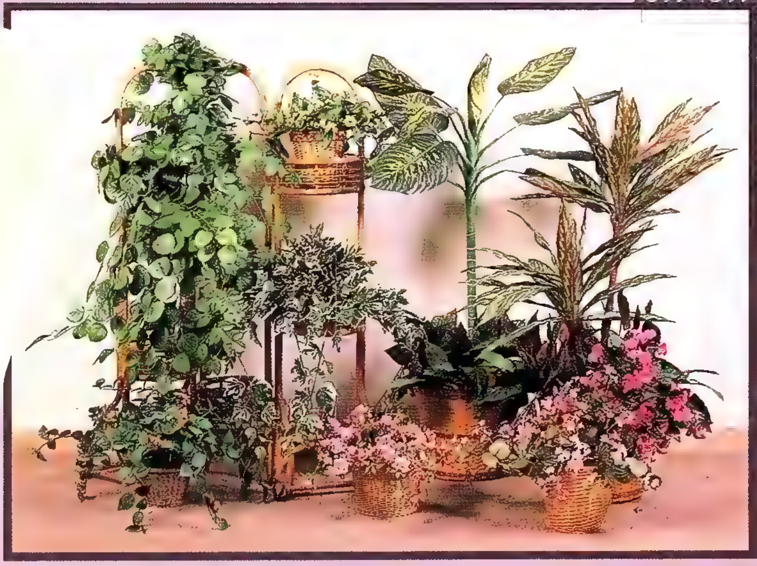

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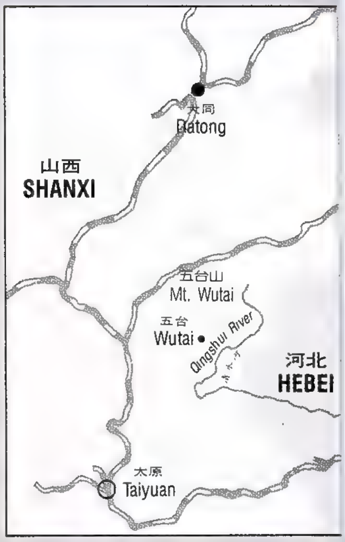
Monasteries of Mount Wutai

PHOTOS BY CHAN YAT NIN
ARTICLE BY ZHAN PENG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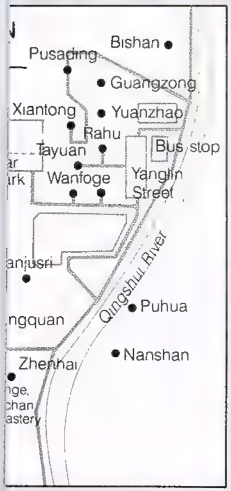
太原
Taiyuan

Mount Wutai, which rises to 3,000 metres above sea-level in northeastern Shanxi 220 kilometres north of Taiyuan, is one of China's four sacred Buddhist mountains (the others being Putuo in Zhejiang, Emei in Sichuan and Jiuhua in Anhui). The mountain consists of five terraces or peaks which give it its name; they are named after the four cardinal points, the fifth being the centre where the township of Taihuai is located. In the past this was one of the most important pilgrimage sites in the whole of Asia. Its patron saint is Manjusri, the Bodhisattva of Wisdom, whose birth-

CATION OF NASTERIES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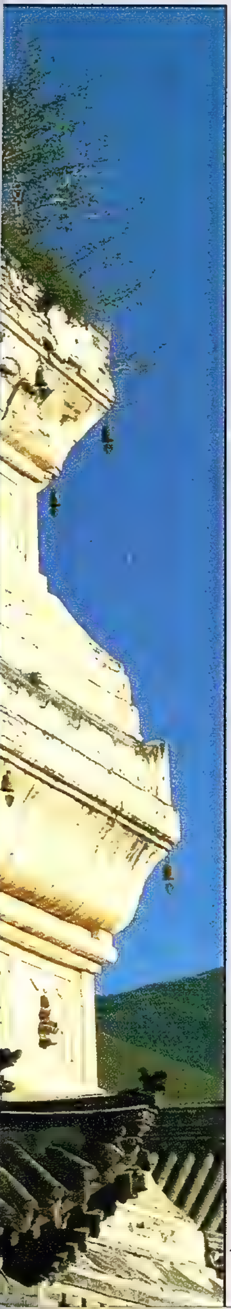

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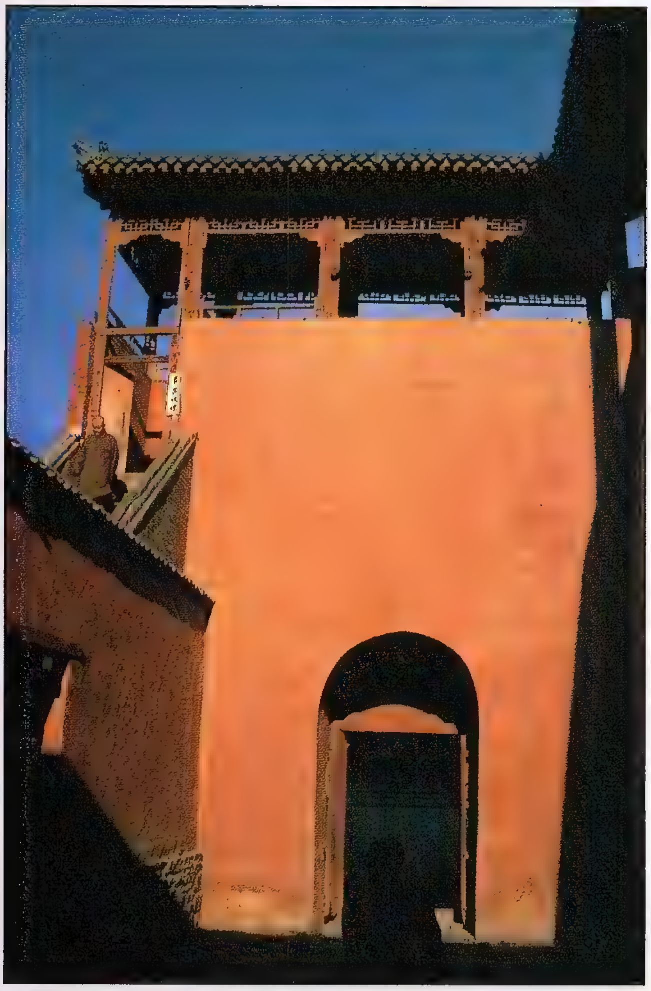


2

day is celebrated on the fourth day of the fourth lunar month.

The first religious buildings appeared on Mount Wutai as early as the Eastern Han dynasty. Emperor Mingdi (reign dates 57-75) invited two monks from India to China and, in the year 68, they established a temple known as Dafu Lingjiu, predecessor of present-day Xiantong Monastery. At the height of its popularity Mount Wutai boasted over two hundred monasteries, of which fifty-eight have survived to the present day.

Symbol of Wutai

We begin our visit with the three monasteries at Taihuai in the very heart of the mountain. The Big White Pagoda of Tayuan Monastery has come to symbolize Mount Wutai. Built between 1573 and 1620 in the Ming dynasty, twenty-five metres high, it rests on a square base in Tibetan style. The body of the structure is decorated with small bronze Buddhas, each within its own individual shallow niche serving as

The massive Big White Pagoda (1) seems both symbol and focal point of Mount Wutai (3). Strong and plain — Shanhai Pavilion at Tayuan Monastery (2).

3

a frame, their colour blending harmoniously with the creamy white of the pagoda. This is a *sarira* stupa, said to contain a hair of Manjusri as he appeared here once in the guise of an old man.

East of Tayuan Monastery we find the Shanhai (Mountain-Sea) Pavilion. This is an elegant construction of wood on a quadrangular brick base, rather resembling a gate-tower on a city wall. Painted dark-red, but otherwise totally plain, it impresses one by its simplicity.

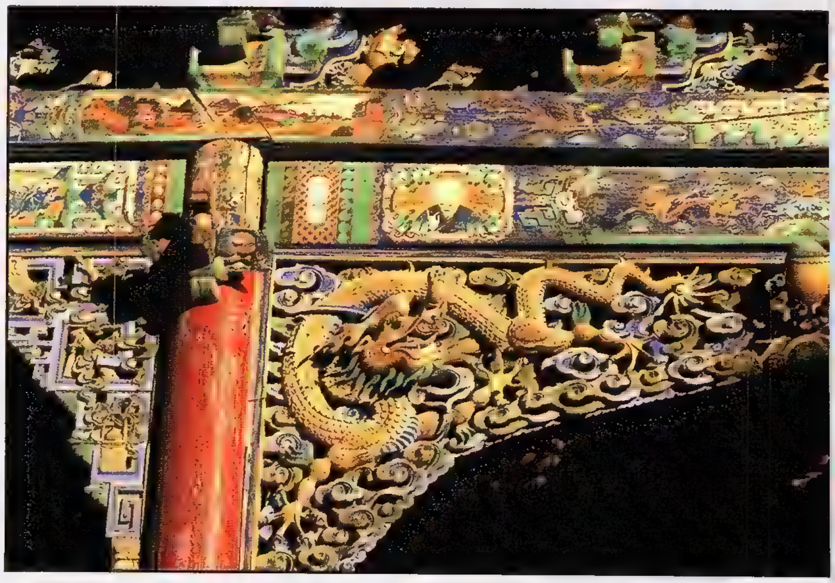
Ten Thousand Bronze Buddhas

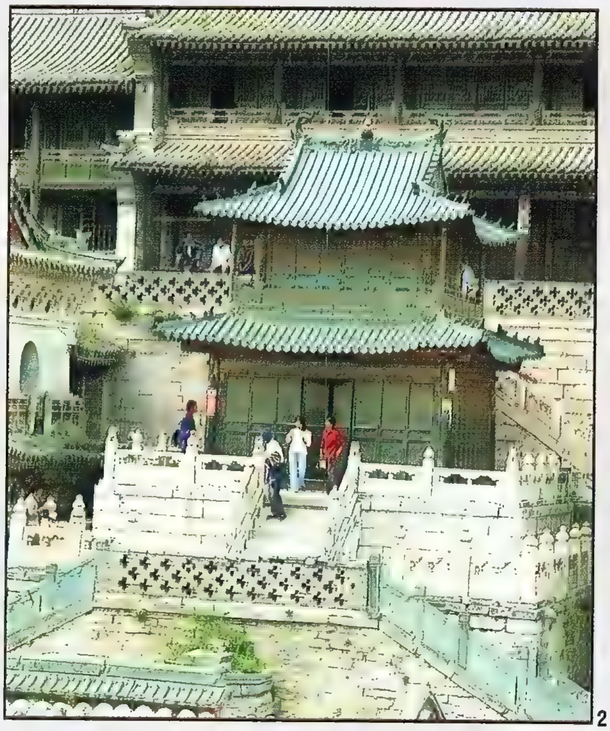
Of the many monasteries of Mount Wutai, the largest and oldest is Xiantong Monastery, started in 68 — as we saw — under the Eastern Han and reconstructed in the Ming and Qing dynasties. With such a history, it is no surprise that it incorporates five different styles of architecture. Its best-known building is a two-storeyed mini-temple cast in 1609 in bronze, for which fifty tons of pure copper were used. The walls are engraved with flower, plant, bird and animal motifs, as well as thousands of Buddhas. The temple contains small Buddha statues, with a bronze Manjusri in the centre. Opposite stand two bronze stupas, six metres and thirteen storeys high, which are decorated with still more tiny but intricately detailed Buddhas.

'Crown of the Bodhisattva'

Pusading (Crown of the Bodhisattva) on the summit of Lingjiu Peak is a lamasery. Built at the time of the Northern Wei (386-534) it has been rebuilt on sundry occasions over the centuries. Mongolian and Tibetan monks and lamas came here to study between 1403 and 1424 in the Ming dynasty, when Pusading developed into a great spiritual centre of Tibetan Buddhism. It was formally established as a lamasery between 1644 and 1661 in the Qing dynasty, but later reverted to being an ordinary Buddhist monastery.

The present complex is a good illustration of Qing-dynasty architecture, with temples and halls rising gradually from the foot to the summit of the peak in a way which exploits the natural lie of the land. The





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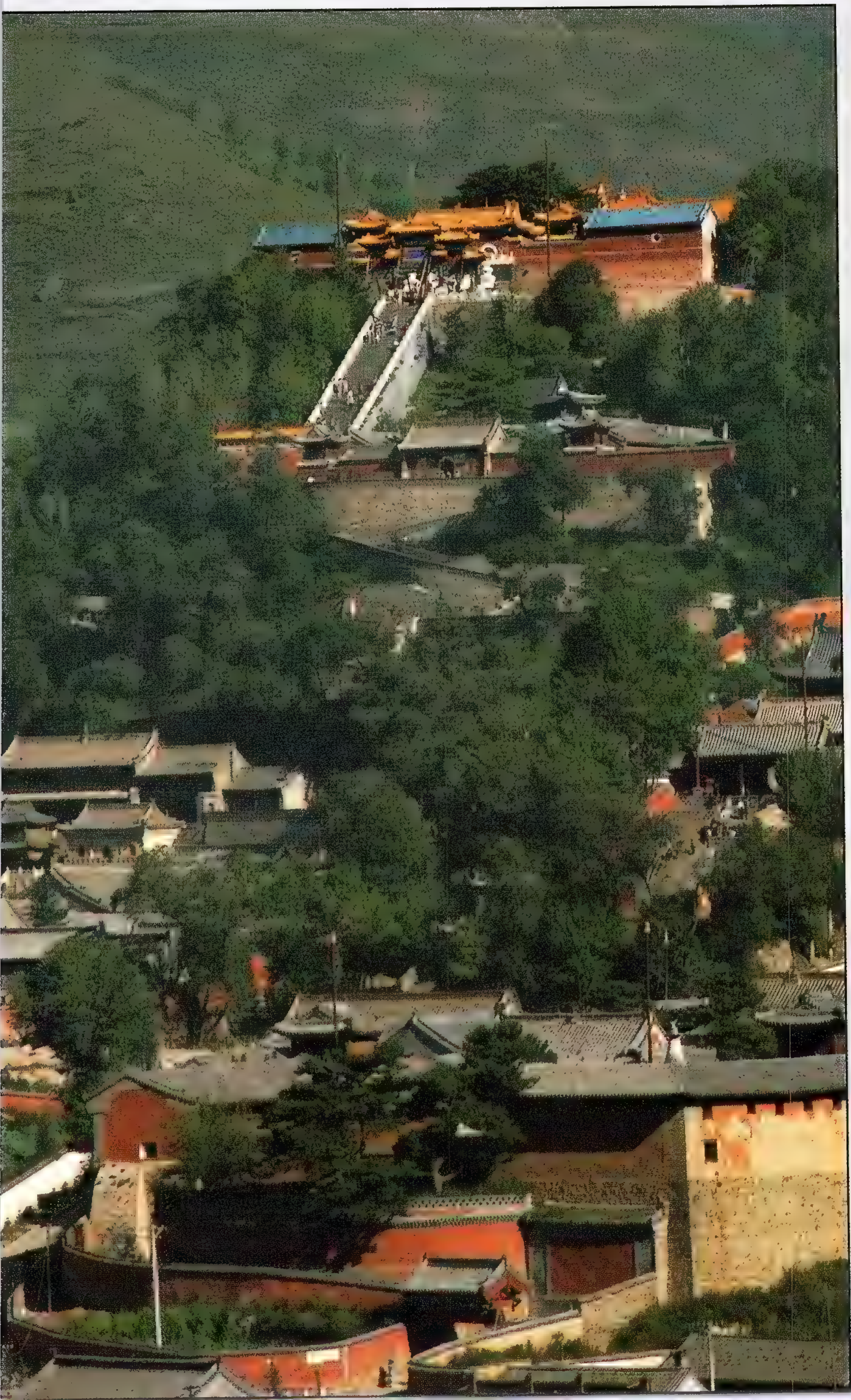

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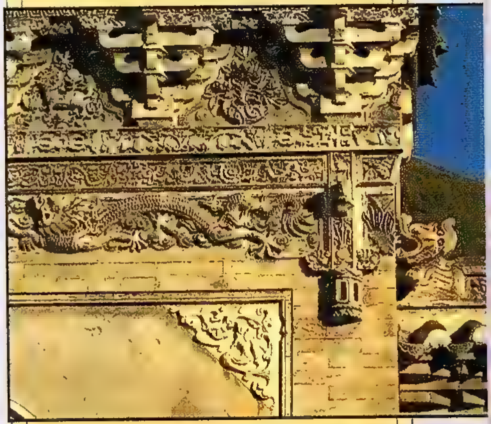

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highest of the temples stands majestically at the top of a steep flight of 108 steps, symbolizing the 108 trials of human life from which the devotee must strive to free himself or the 108 holy sutras, depending on which authority one consults.

Puhua's Golden Dragons

We continue with a look at three monasteries south of Taihuai. Puhua Monastery is built against a mountain to the southeast on the opposite bank of the River Qingshui. The date of its construction is unknown, but it is particularly famous for its carvings on brick and wood. A high screen wall fronts the monastery, its carved bricks as intricate as though executed in wood. Three stone carvings in the round are inlaid in the centre of the screen which is supported on either side by a sturdy warrior giving an impression of great strength. The whole complex writhes with dragons, phoenixes, human figures, flowers and plants. The brackets between the roof beams and the pillars are intricately carved and painted in blue and gold; the dragons are particularly vivid.

Marble Marvels

Longquan (Dragon Well) Monastery, southwest of Taihuai,

Xiantong Monastery is noted for its bronze mini-temple (2, by Li Huipu) and bronze stupas (3), Puhua Monastery for its carvings in wood (1) and in brick (5). Pusading Lamasery is picturesquely sited on Lingjiu Peak (4).

dates from the Song dynasty (960-1127). A memorial archway constructed between 1920 and 1924 stands in front of it. With the exception of the four supporting pillars and its top, the archway was carved from solid white marble in a highly ornate manner. The lions, slanted pillars and arched bridge beyond are carved from the same material. In the monastery complex is a pagoda containing the *sarira* (ashes, bones and other remains) of Puji, a famous monk who died in 1917. Five metres high, this too is of pure marble.

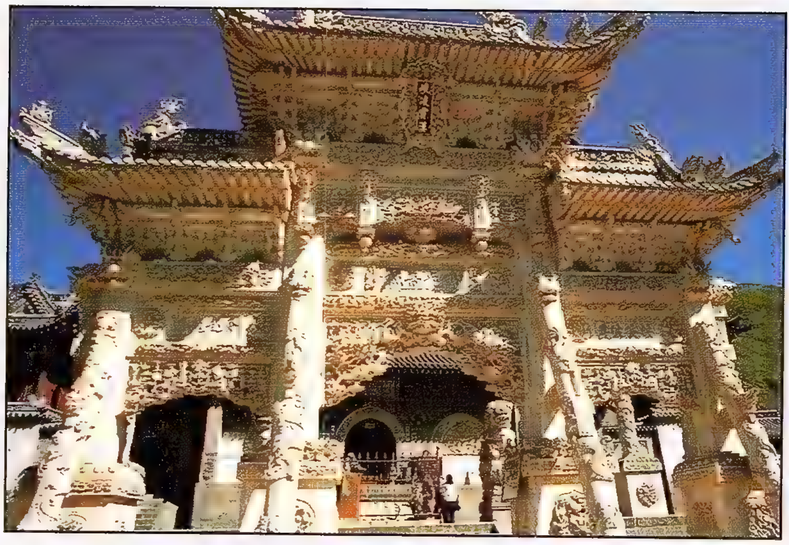
Golden Splendour of Jinge

About fifteen kilometres from Taihuai, located at 1,900 metres above sea-level, is Jinge Monastery. It dates from the Tang dynasty when Buddhism was flourishing at Mount Wutai and monks came on pilgrimage from as far away as Japan. Frescoes in the Mogao Grottoes at Dunhuang, Gansu Province, bear witness to this, as they depict some of the grand ceremonies held at Wutai.

Jinge (Golden Temple) was founded in the eighth century by two monks from India, although the present buildings — comprising two hundred temples, halls and monks' cells — and statuary are in Ming and Qing style. The monastery is noted for its gilt bronze tiles and its entrance decorated with innumerable relief carvings in stone; the dark-red doors are set off by elaborate metal fretwork in black.

Spare Tang Beauty

Nanchan (Southern Zen) Temple lies outside the limits of the five main peaks of the mountain twenty-two kilometres southwest of the county town, Wutai. Dating back twelve centuries, this is one of the oldest existing examples of wooden architecture in China. Simple but elegant in structure, it has a fairly flat roof supported by an intricate network of beams and *dougong* brackets in pure Tang style. Its Great Buddha Hall contains eighteen statues of varying sizes demonstrating the Buddhist hierarchy. Buddha is largest, flanked by smaller statues of Manjusri and Samantabhadra, the Bodhisattva of Universal Benevolence, flanked in turn by



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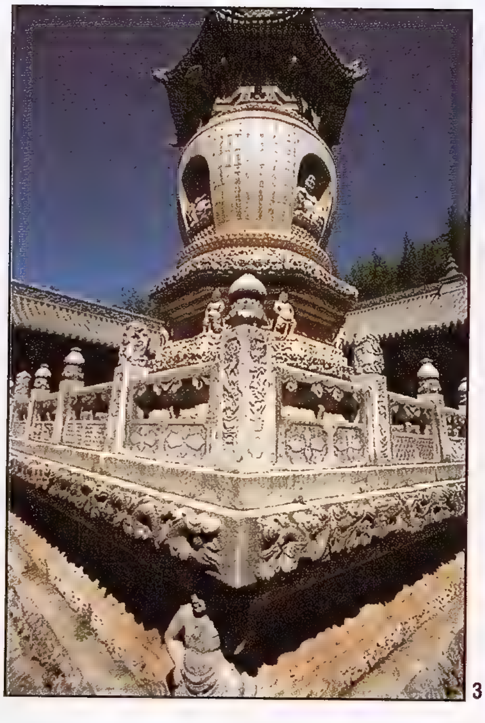

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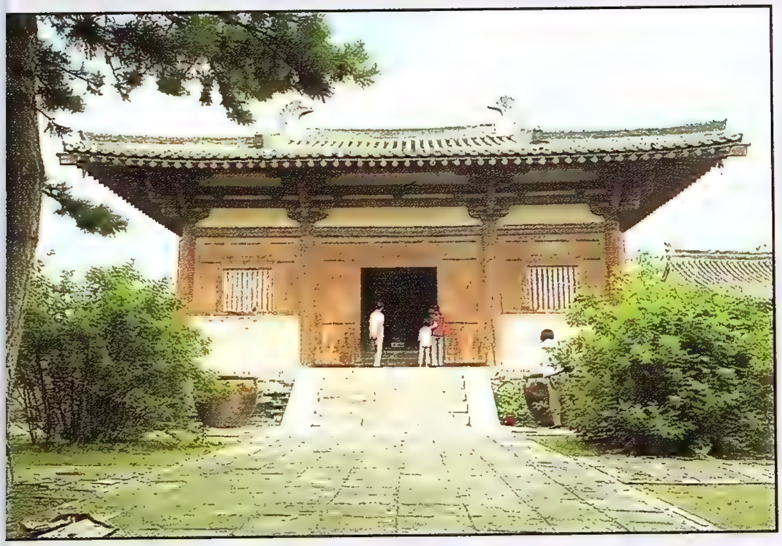

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lesser (and smaller) deities. The painted statues display the same elements of style as the Tang-dynasty sculptures at Dunhuang, both in clothing details and in technique. ⊂

Translated by He Fei

Longquan Monastery's intricate modern marble work: memorial archway (2) and Puji's sarira stupa (3). The monastic community follows a simple, austere way of life (1). Contrasts — the Tang-dynasty Great Buddha Hall at Nanchan Temple (4, by Li Huipu) and the entrance to Jinge Monastery (5).

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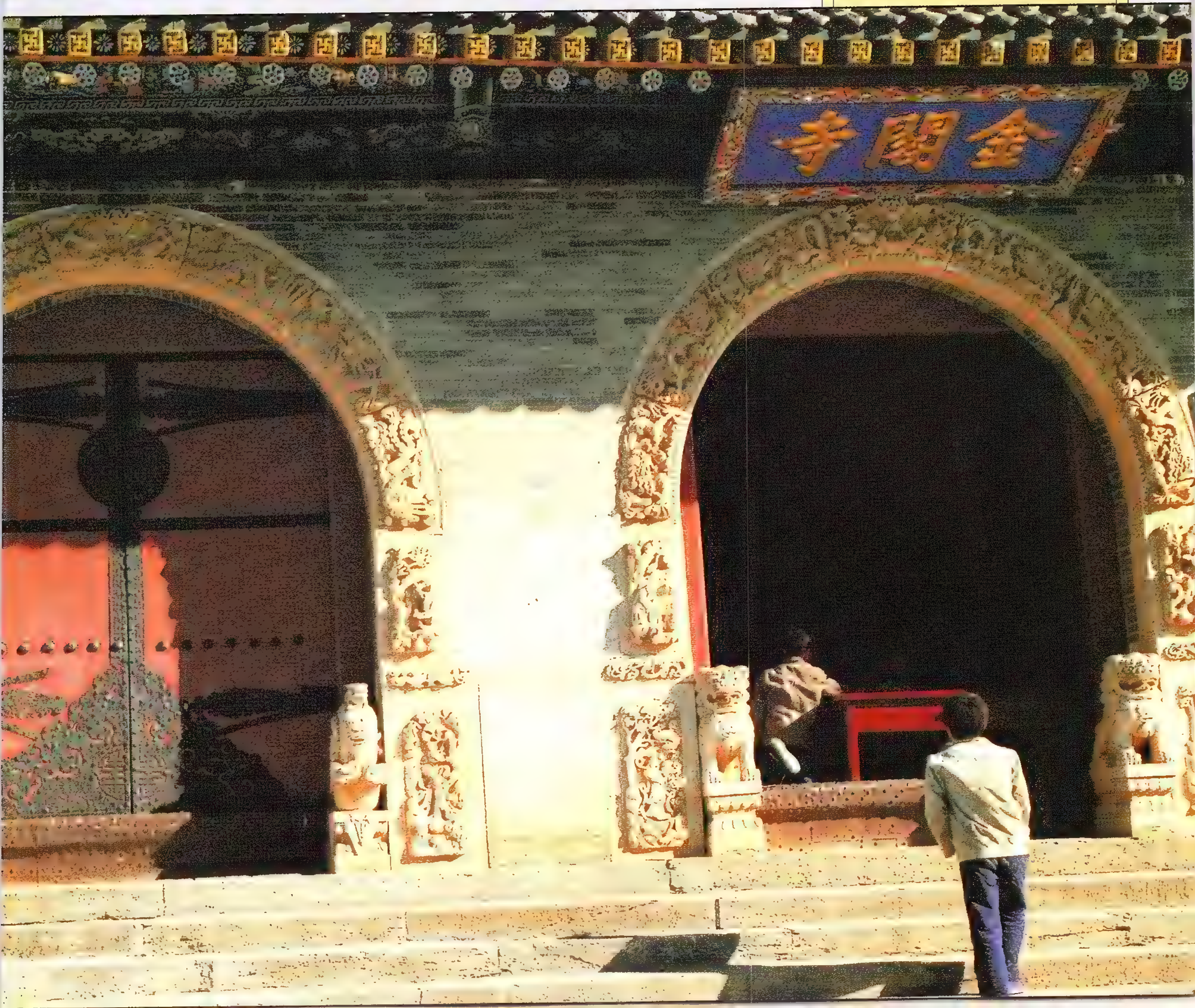
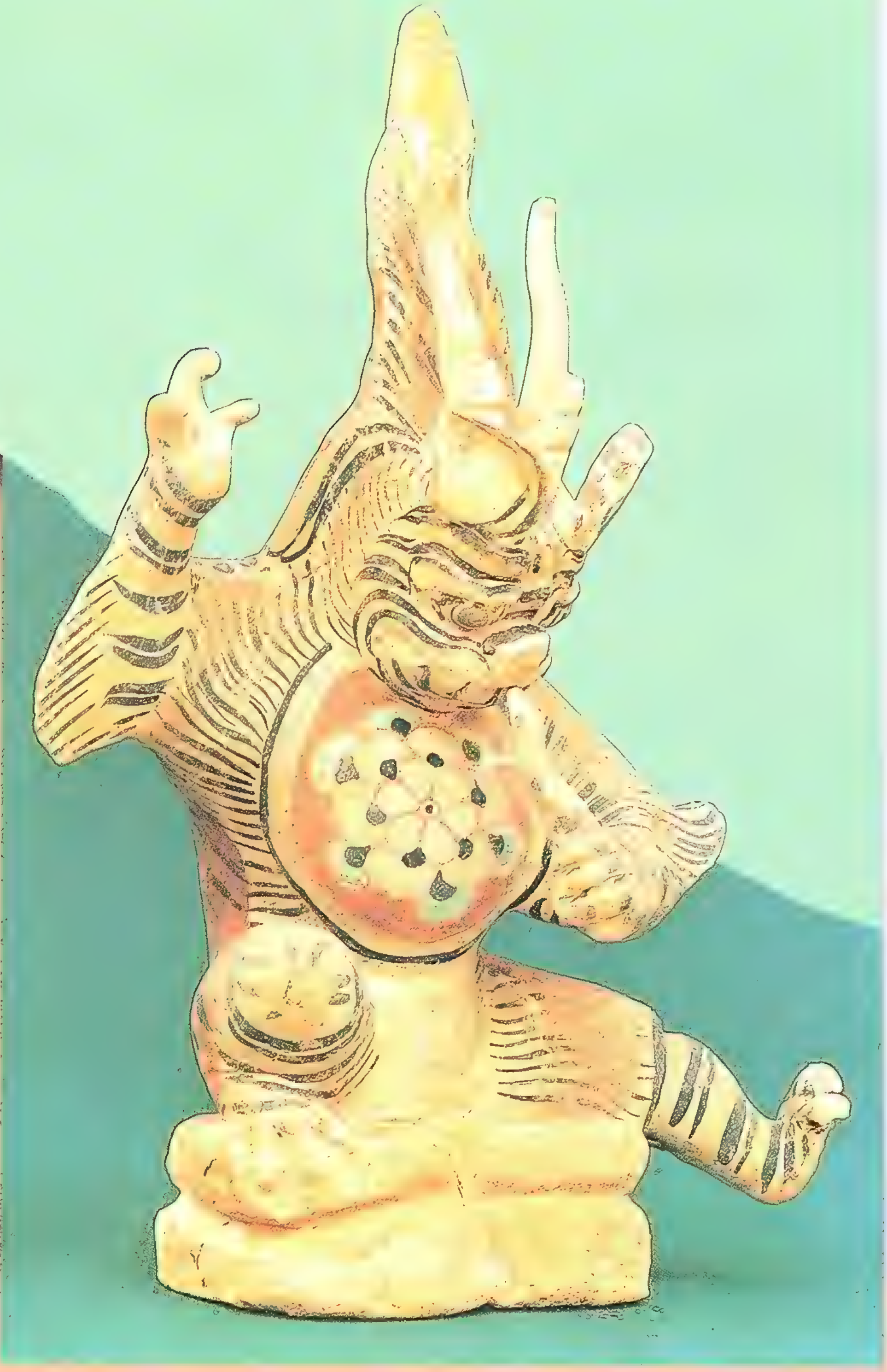




Tang-Dynasty Funerary Pottery

PHOTOS BY YUAN QUAN
TEXT BY HAN YUE

Longxian in Shaanxi Province was a flourishing town along the ancient Silk Road during the Tang dynasty (618-907). Recent excavations of Tang-dynasty tombs there have uncovered an important find of painted pottery figures and figurines. The realism, expressiveness and fine execution of these funerary objects reflect the mastery of technique shown by potters of that period, most such figures being prepared from moulds.

The find includes likenesses of local non-Han people, a clear indication of the close relations existing at the time between the various nationalities within China's borders (which incidentally covered a greater area under the Tang than at any time since the collapse of the Han dynasty in the third century).

From the sumptuous decoration of the tomb in which the objects were buried one can infer that the deceased was an imperial dignitary who died while travelling from Chang'an (present-day Xi'an), the cosmopolitan Tang capital, to the west.

Two-Horned Beast

This imaginative figure was enclosed in the tomb for the purpose of frightening off ghosts and evil spirits. It is forty-one centimetres tall. Its appearance is all the more striking because of its bulging eyes, prominent nose and savage teeth, while the black streaks give it a tigerish look. It glowers at the snake wound around its left arm, which it grasps as though about to bite off its head — a true image of fearlessness.

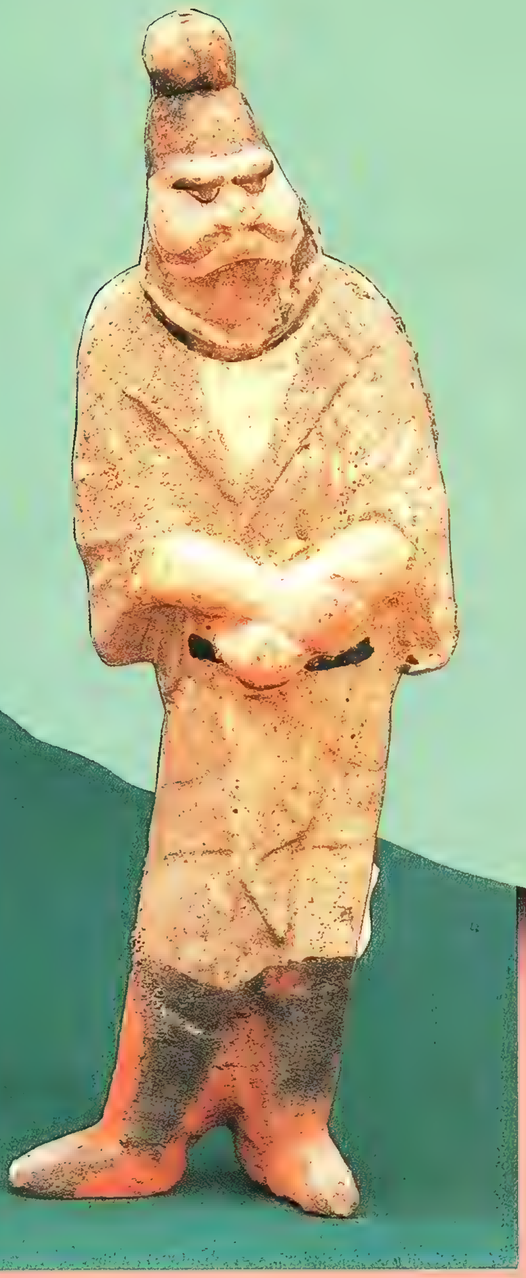
Rustic Figurine

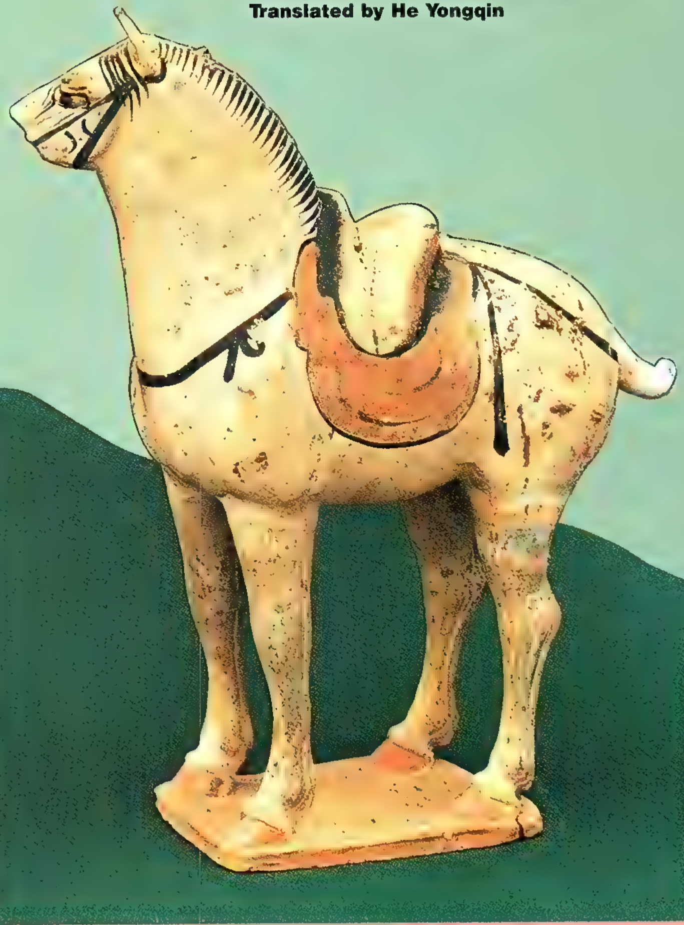
This rather crudely finished figurine, intended to act as a servant for the deceased in the other world, is distinguishable as being from what was called the Western Regions (present-day Xinjiang and parts of Central Asia). The figure is twenty-seven centimetres tall. The well-built man wears a cap and is magnificently hirsute — a simple, but powerful, portrait which succeeds in conveying character qualities.

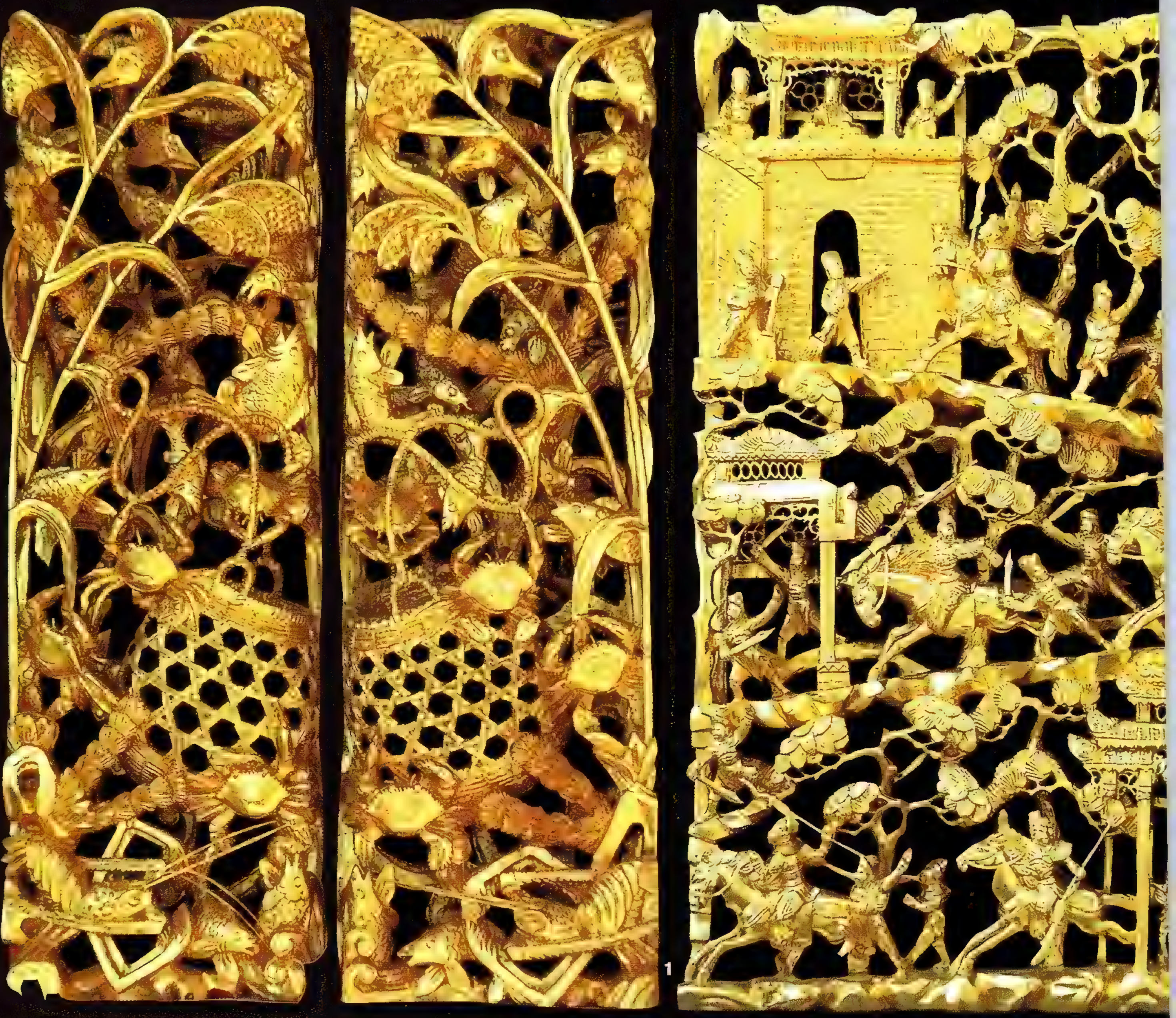
Pottery Horse

Tang-dynasty people seem to have had a particular liking and reverence for the horse, emphasizing in their art its qualities of grace and dignity, as shown in this naturalistic example. The noble animal is plump and robust, its muscles subtly delineated. This is probably a model of one of the rare horses from Ferghana which were the most highly prized of all, and of which it was said that they could 'cover a thousand *li* between sunrise and sunset' (a distance of around five hundred kilometres).

Translated by He Yongqin







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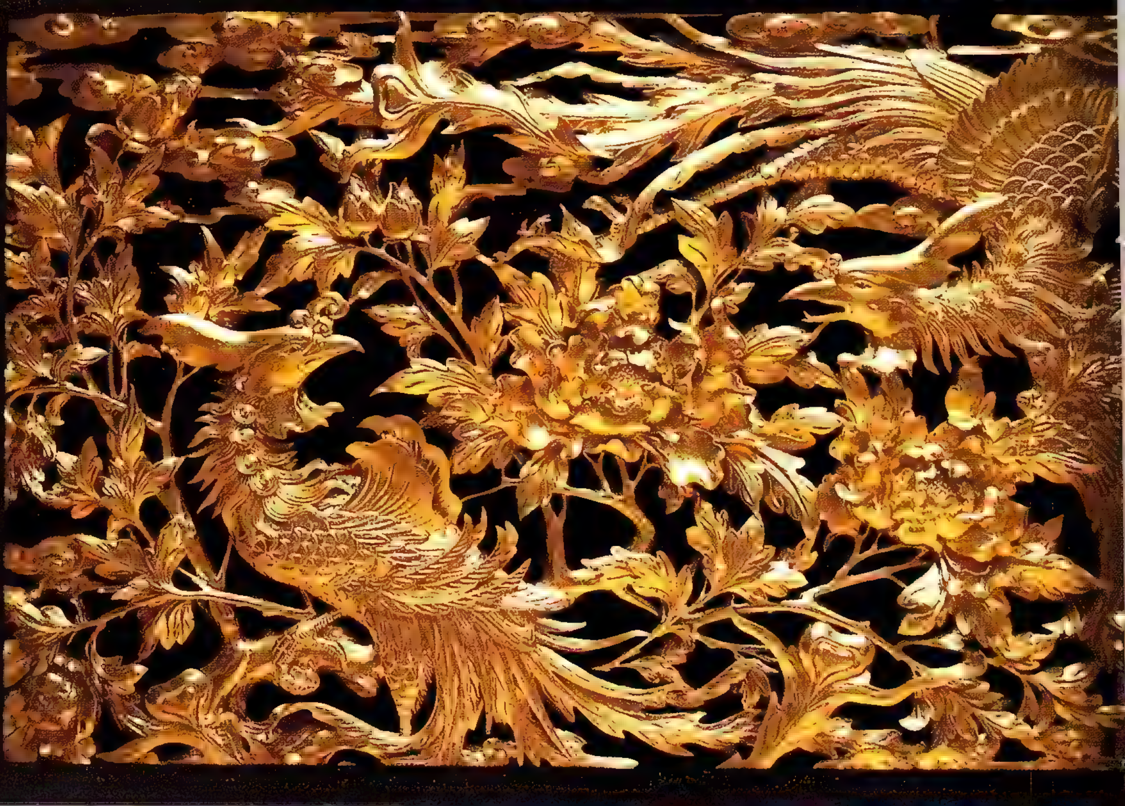

Wood and Gold Leaf – Carved Fantasies

TEXT BY TIAN HUO

The type of gold-painted wooden carvings featured here have long been popular in the area around Chaozhou and Shantou in eastern Guangdong Province. They generally occur as decoration on articles of furniture such as beds, closets, cupboards, screens, chests … even ancestral shrines.

Apart from adding beauty and elegance to the home, the carvings are intricate works of art. They usually portray a large number of human figures and other elements that together tell a well-known folktale or illustrate an episode from a classical novel or a Chaozhou opera.

Translated by M.K.

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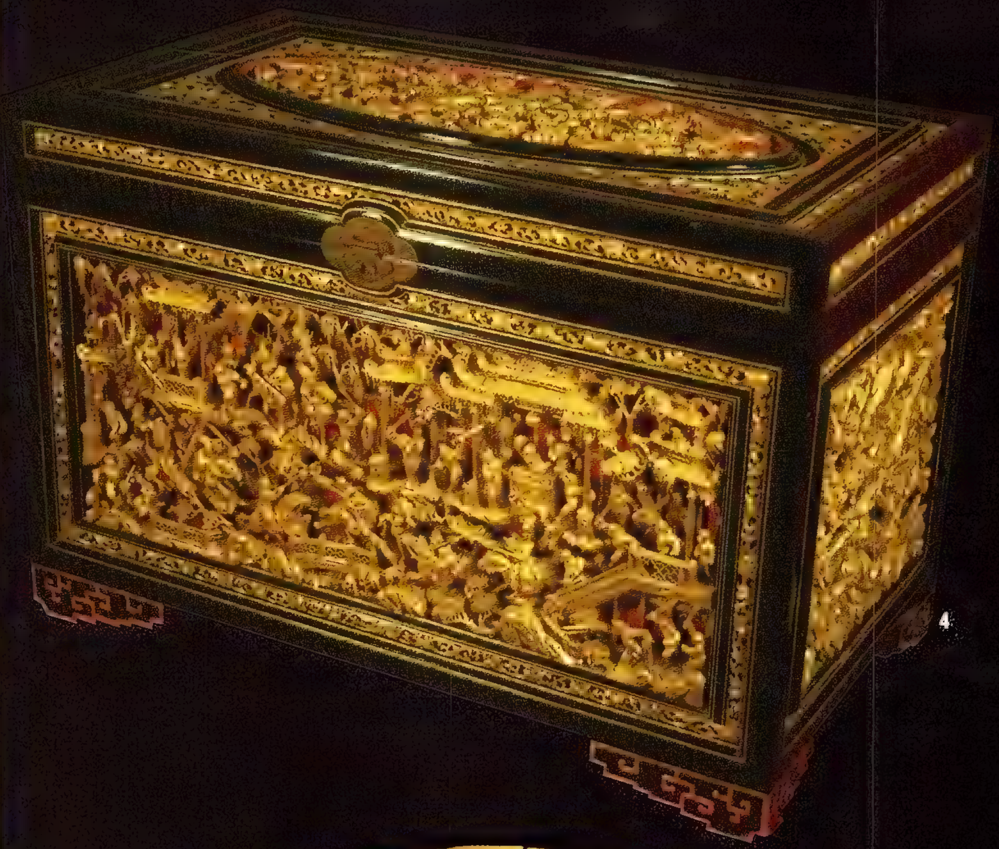
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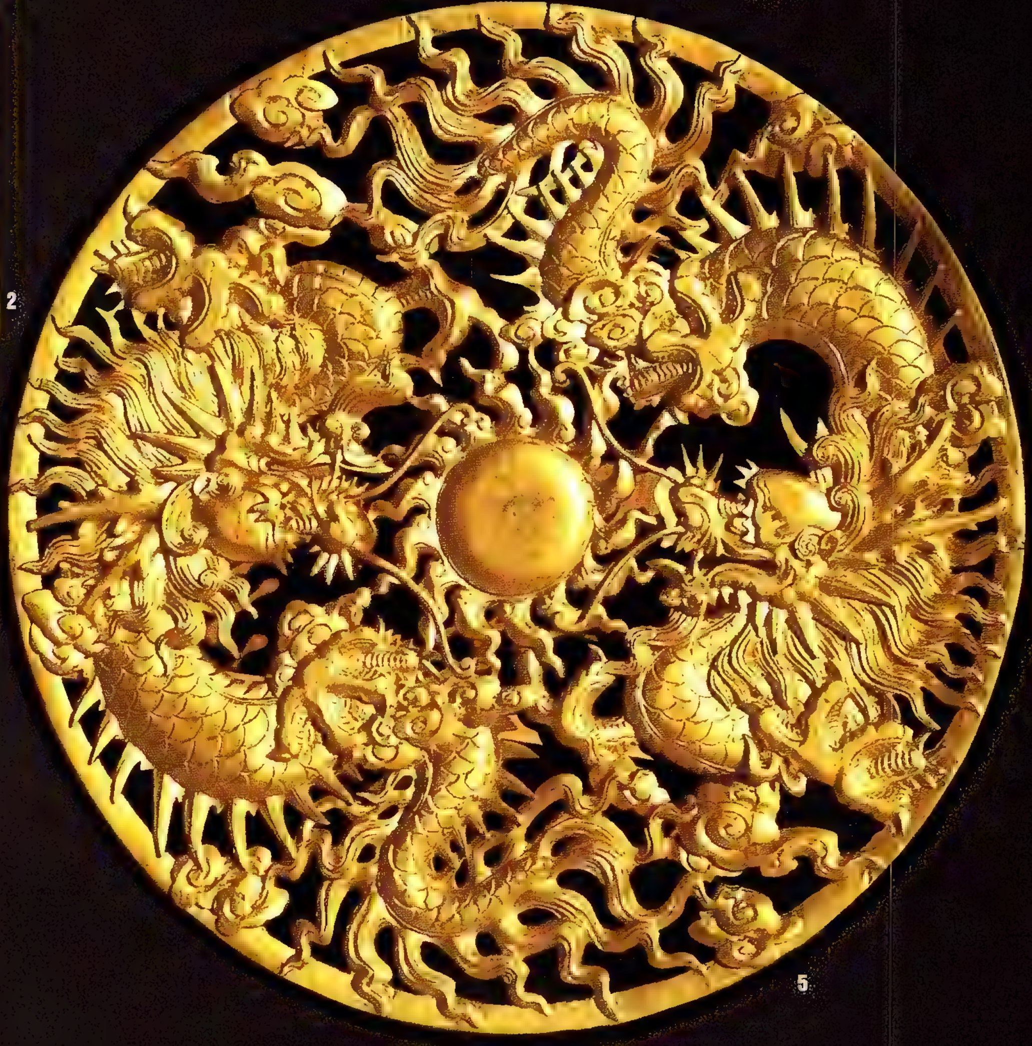
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Symmetrical panels from an ocean world (1), a complex battle story (2), and a roundel of dragons playing with the flaming pearl (5) (all by Wong Chung Fai). Inlaid chest (4, by Zou Weikang) and phoenix detail (3, by Raymond Lai).

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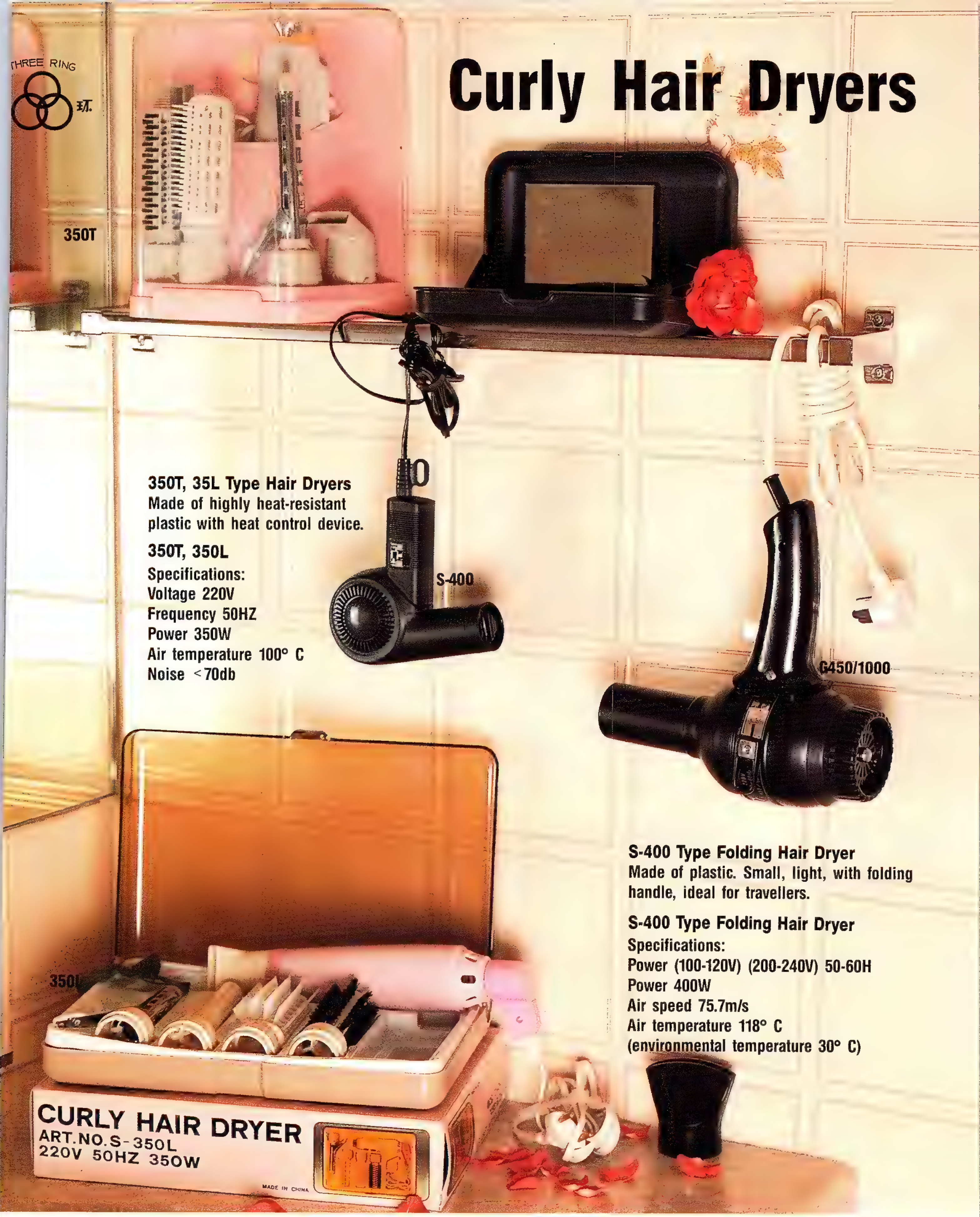
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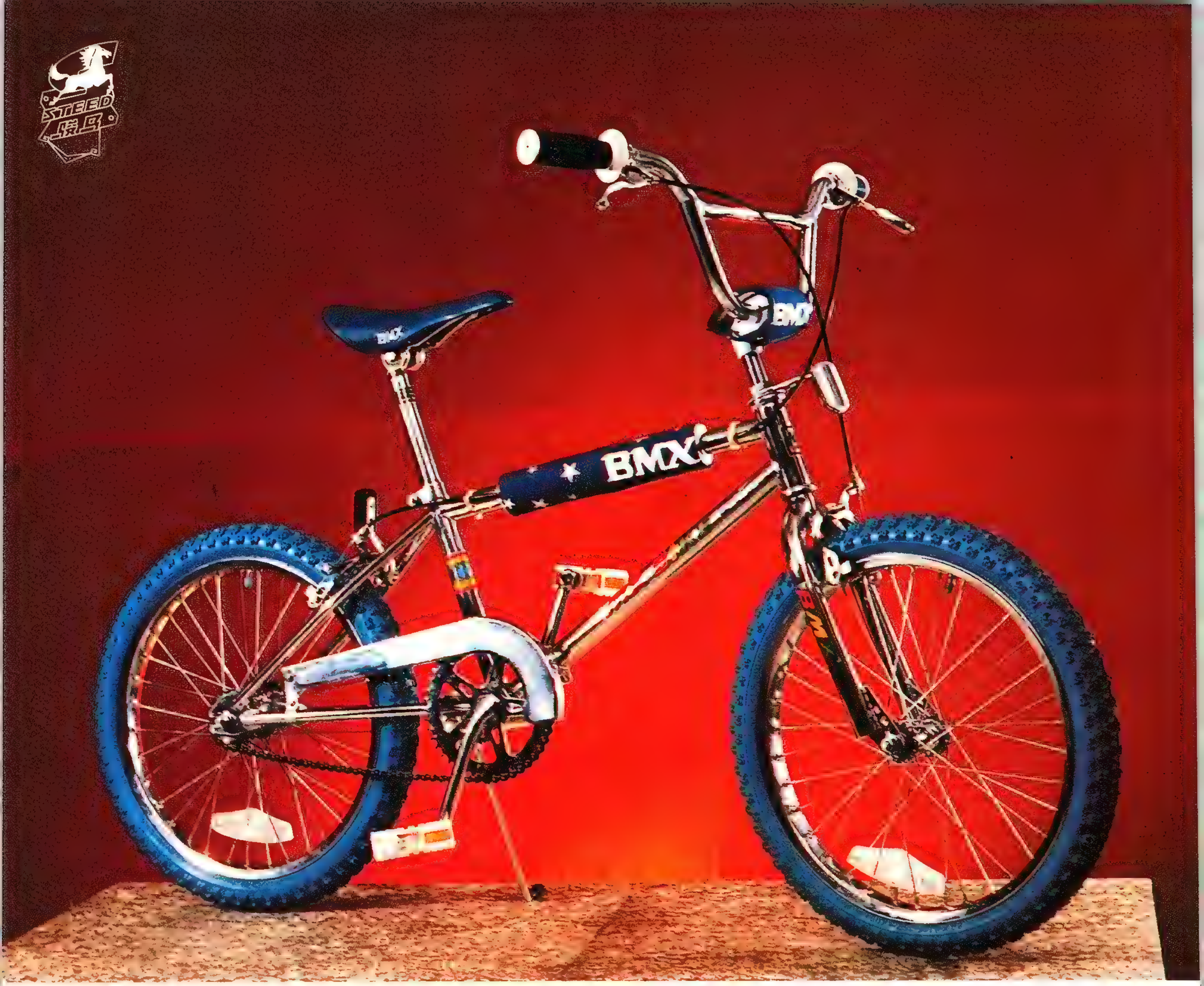

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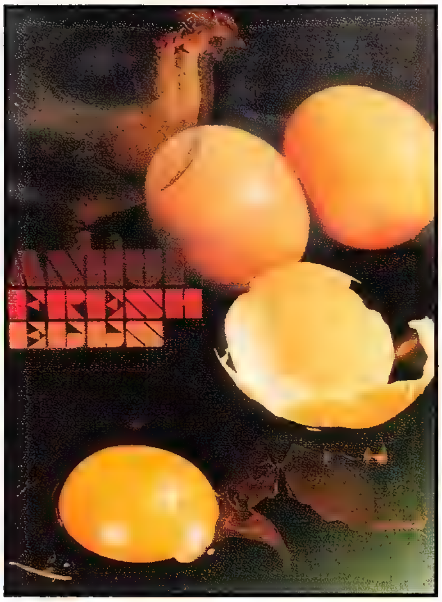

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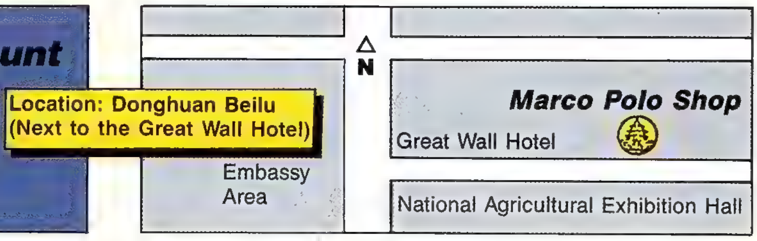
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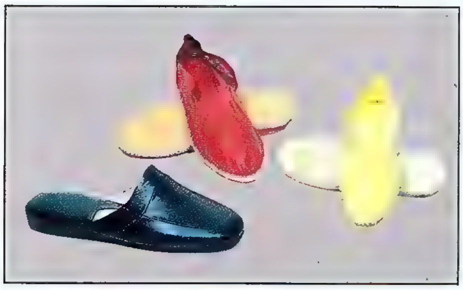

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The Miraculous Pigtail (I)

Set in the northeastern city of Tianjin, this entertaining, earthy story is one of the best-known to date by Feng Jicai and won an award for best novelette of 1984. It is representative of Feng Jicai's historical works, giving us a colourful picture of turn-of-the-century Tianjin and its underworld, of the foreign concessions there and the Boxers who tried to overthrow them.

A few words to introduce the two major characters, whose long-running feud forms the basis of the story. Second Simpleton, the hero, is named for his appearance: 'of middle build, narrow little slit-eyes, cheeks covered in pimples, a pug-nose, square face and big ears', he indeed has something of the air of a simpleton. But he has one completely unexpected attribute — his pigtail, thick, black and glistening, like an enormous whip — with which he can perform the most astonishing feats. Hence his other nickname, Miraculous Pigtail.

His main adversary and tormentor, Motley Glass, is a sharp-tongued local lout with a penchant for things foreign who gets his nickname from his opaque and sightless left eye, damaged long before when he was thrashed by a gang boss. This he considers almost a badge of glory since 'a thug without a scar is no thug at all'! These two are ably backed by a wide-ranging cast of figures: rogues and pugilists (including a samurai), shopkeepers, pedlars, acrobats, sundry foreigners and a concubine with a dubious past.

Here then is the first of two extracts from *The Miraculous Pigtail.* Information about the author will follow with next month's extract.

Taken from the collection entitled *The Miraculous Pigtail* and reproduced by kind permission of Panda Books, Chinese Literature Press, Beijing

At the crack of dawn, Motley Glass set off with Killer Cui from the apothecary's to visit Catapult Dai Kuiyi outside the south gate. The two men crossed straight over Guyi Street, but when they got to the north gate they did not take the quicker main road straight through the city, turning west through the sections by the city wall and reaching the south gate by a large curve round the city instead. This was because Motley Glass was afraid of being spotted, cutting across streets and keeping to alleys the whole way, deliberately taking the quiet deserted routes. City thugs usually liked to keep to the main roads, strolling down the centre so all the sedans, carriages, donkeys, etc. had to get out of the way. As they went they would look around, picking on anyone who looked at them once too often. This time, however, Motley Glass kept his head well down, wishing fervently that he could stuff it inside his jacket. "I'm going to make sure the bastard never thinks of showing his face again," Killer Cui mused at his side.

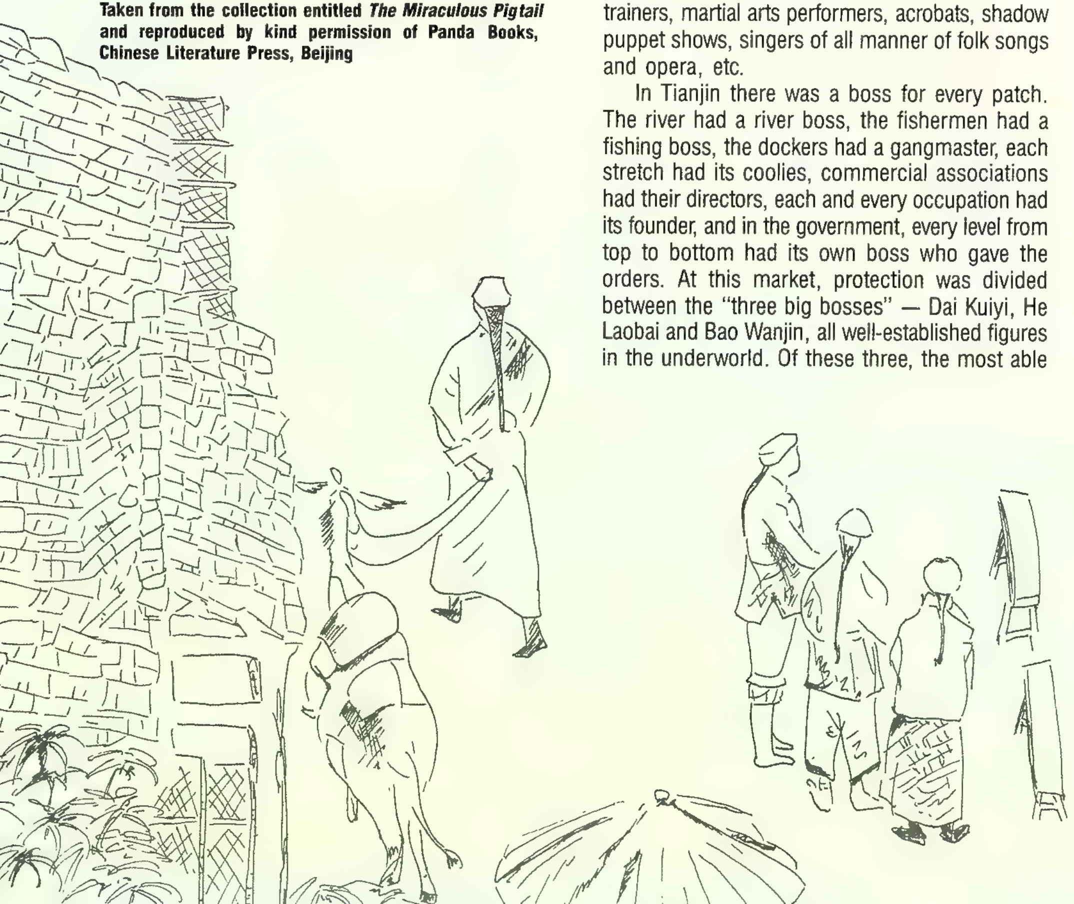
At that time, the broad, low-lying ground outside the south gate was covered with mosquito-infested stagnant pools, sprouting willows, randomly raised earth shelves, neglected graves and many dense clusters of reeds. It was mostly inhabited by wildfowlers who caught geese, mallards, egrets and waterrails, taking them to sell at the city wall. This was a flourishing perennial market, commonly known as the South Market. It had everything: clothes, food, utensils, etc., all freely bought and sold. Other than the usual fresh fish, new grain, seasonal fruit and vegetables, it had a scattering of small shops and vendors dealing in every kind of everyday wares. Representatives of all the itinerant community were there: pedlars, fortune-tellers, camel trainers, bird trainers, martial arts performers, acrobats, shadow puppet shows, singers of all manner of folk songs and opera, etc.

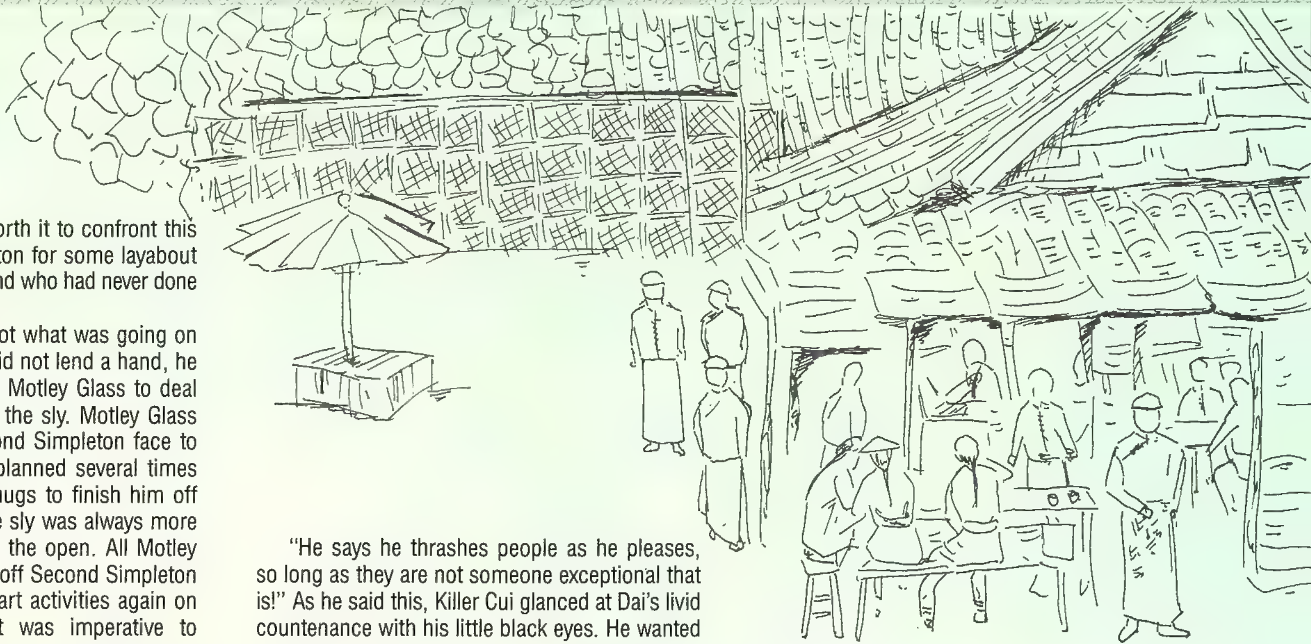
In Tianjin there was a boss for every patch. The river had a river boss, the fishermen had a fishing boss, the dockers had a gangmaster, each stretch had its coolies, commercial associations had their directors, each and every occupation had its founder, and in the government, every level from top to bottom had its own boss who gave the orders. At this market, protection was divided between the "three big bosses" — Dai Kuiyi, He Laobai and Bao Wanjin, all well-established figures in the underworld. Of these three, the most able was Dai Kuiyi. His catapult was one of the wonders of the world. His favourite demonstration was to lay a thin porcelain wine-pot on the table, stick a mud pellet in the mouth of the pot so that i fitted exactly, then shoot at it from thirty paces shattering the mud pellet but not harming the po in the slightest. He would use this amazing skil to attract spectators when in fact he was selling Food Transforming Pills. After he had performed a few feats with his catapult, he would pick up a piece of raw, fresh beef, chew it up, then spit out a few pills the size of sheep's droppings, saying that these pills, when swallowed, could enable one to digest any raw or cold food. He used this startling method to sell his medicine, and people bought it, not because they believed that it could actually transform food. They were just plain scared. It was said that in the 13th year of Guangxu a troupe arrived from Henan Province performing the "Mountain of Knives". Most of these troupes knew some Shaolin Boxing, but this troupe, over-confident of their own ability, did not pay him a courtesy visit first, thus incurring his displeasure. While one of the martial arts performers, a young girl, was climbing a big fir pole ten or more metres high, just as she reached the top, Dai Kuiyi yelled from far off, "Here's a new left eye from Uncle Dai!" Whack! A pellet from his catapult shot into the girl's left eye-socket. The whole troupe were about to battle it out with him, when they saw him prepare another pellet and none of them dared advance. After that no one dared offend him, and even Motley Glass with his useless left eye did not fancy swapping it for a mud pellet.

"Uncle Dai, I hope we're not disturbing you," Motley Glass said, cupping his hands in front of his chest in respectful greeting. This time he was most deferential and very dispirited.

"Come on, gov'nor, no need for that! We're down here in the south of town, you're up in the north; we've got the city between us but we're all loyal brothers. The other day my old friend Cui turned up and gave me your message. I told him then, I said, you just give the word, gov., and we'll produce the goods, no matter what! However, I just been putting the old grey matter to use and I thought, well, is this deep-fried bean-curd selling bastard of a simpleton really worth one of old Dai Kuiyi's mud pellets? Eh?"

Dai threw back his head and roared with laughter. He was stripped to the waist. As he laughed, the lumpy flesh of his whole body jiggled up and down like a live mouse. He was a tall man with a broad face, a powerful back and slim waist, a beaked nose and sharp, sloping eyes. Stuck into a bright orange satin belt was a large catapult with a fork of willow and straps made of ox tendon. He was standing in the door of his shop, inside which on the opposite wall were hanging two human skeletons. This back-drop and his attire set each other off well, making it all seem even more horrible. Originally he had agreed to put up front for Motley Glass. However, though he had never been afraid of anything, he was not stupid, and frequently in the last two days fantastic rumours concerning Second Simpleton's pigtail had found their way to his ears. Unsure whether or not to believe them, he had started to have some





isgivings; was it really worth it to confront this ysterious Second Simpleton for some layabout pparently on the way out and who had never done im any special favour?

Killer Cui seemed to spot what was going on Dai Kuiyi's mind. If Dai did not lend a hand, he easoned, this would force Motley Glass to deal ith Second Simpleton on the sly. Motley Glass id not dare confront Second Simpleton face to ace, and he had already planned several times send a group of little thugs to finish him off ecretly. Doing a job on the sly was always more uccessful than doing it in the open. All Motley lass had to do was finish off Second Simpleton nd he would be free to start activities again on uyi Street. Therefore, it was imperative to ersuade Dai Kuiyi to have a go at Second impleton. If Dai won, then he could spread a umour to the effect that Motley Glass was an ncompetent who got other people to do his dirty ork, and his name would still be dirt; if Second impleton won, Dai would certainly loathe Motley lass for ruining his reputation, and how could hat be good for Motley Glass? Having reasoned hus far, he egged Dai on:

"Uncle Dai, I heard that Simpleton said that ou weren't nothing compared to a salt-water man."

"You what?" Dai had not caught his meaning.

"The simpleton's from the coast: He says salt ater's hard and so are people who live by it, not ike crabs," Killer Cui went on.

"What the hell are you on about?" Dai asked again.

"He's slandering you!" Killer Cui said with a laugh. "A crab's bones are on the outside, and its muscles are on the inside, tough outside, soft inside, but it looks hard. Got it? Hold on, don't fly off the handle yet. The simpleton said something else... he said never mind hand and foot skills, there isn't anyone who can stand up to his pigtail, and your catapult is kids' stuff!"

The ability to tackle someone depends completely on whether or not one is able to accurately sound out one's opponent's vital spots. Once this is done, one prod and the game's won. Killer Cui knew only too well that Dai was all brawn and no brains. He also knew that envy is a funny thing: Men envy men, women envy women, people of the same generation envy each other, as do people of the same occupation, even those from the same place now in another part of the country envy each other — but I have never heard of a famous cook from the north who could be filled with envy and hatred for a painter in the south, no matter how much more famous the painter was.

As expected, Dai could not handle this and flew into a swearing rage.

Killer Cui then added more wood to the blaze:

"Everyone calls that simpleton's pigtail the 'miraculous pigtail'!"

He had actually invented this "miraculous pigtail" on the spur of the moment just to aggravate Dai.

"What the hell's a miraculous pigtail?" Dai yelled. The fire in his blood now spread all over his body, the veins on the backs of his hands, arms, neck and temples swelling up as thick as noodles.

"He says he thrashes people as he pleases, so long as they are not someone exceptional that is!" As he said this, Killer Cui glanced at Dai's livid countenance with his little black eyes. He wanted to make sure that Dai was completely eaten up by this fire of envy.

"Even if he's an immortal," Dai shouted, "I'll still shoot him down!" He whipped out his catapult, twisting his body in a "Turning the Head to Gaze at the Moon" and shot off two pellets in rapid succession. There was a "Whack!" in the air. The second pellet was faster than the first and had smashed the first to pieces!

"Amazing!" Motley Glass applauded. "You'll turn that simpleton's head into a strainer!"

Dai broke into a smile when he heard this. He told a lackey to fetch an embroidered satin pellet bag out of the house and filled the bag with the roundest, hardest and blackest of the mud pellets laid out to dry in rows on the dark flag-stones. He thought for a moment, then fetched from the house two iron pellets, which he tucked into his waist. He came out with two lackeys in tow and set off with Motley Glass and Killer Cui to find Second Simpleton for a showdown.

Right at the end of West Gate Road there was a compound surrounded by mud-brick walls. The wall was extremely high with only one or two dark tiled roofs showing over the top. The spiny crotches of several old jujube trees, not yet in bud, hung densely above it. There was no sign of life from inside, no birds calling in the trees, no smoke coming from the chimney, as if some mysterious eccentric lived within.

Company had bolstered Motley Glass's courage, and for the moment he was much more spirited. He stepped forward and hammered on the door, shouting:

"Hey, you dogstail piss-artist, it's the gov'nor!"

He pounded for a while, but still there was no sign of life. He was just about to smash on the door with a broken brick when a voice called:

"I'm over here!"

They all looked round and there was Second Simpleton standing under some trees not far off. He was still in that long blue cotton gown, his long, thick pigtail coiled on top of his head. Motley Glass leapt forward, dying to rip him to pieces.

"Don't you go thinking we were finished. Today we've come to square the account," Motley Glass snarled.

Second Simpleton was most courteous, replying earnestly:

"What's the need for all this, gov'nor? I don't have the wherewithal to take you on. I was right muddle-headed the other day and happened to cross you by accident, so don't take it to heart, and let's forget it!"

"Cheeky bastard, you're still trying to put us down, are you? Beating us up is being bloody 'muddle-headed', is it? Damn cheek! Simpleton, I tell you straight, today there isn't any need for us to teach you a lesson. This gentleman here — see him? — that's Dai Kuiyi, Uncle Dai the south market catapult — a brother of ours, he is, come to swap you an eyeball. If you've got any skill you'd better use it quick!"

Dai Kuiyi stood where he was, clasping his hands in front of his chest saying, "The crab's come to meet the miraculous pigtail!" He spat the words out viciously, as if squeezing them from between his teeth.

Second Simpleton did not have the foggiest idea what he was on about. What "crab"? "Miraculous pigtail"?

What the hell was a miraculous pigtail?

"I didn't quite hear you right," he said. "I'm not too sure what you mean. Would you mind repeating it?"

Dai laughed viciously. "Sweet music to your ears, was it? You want to hear it again, eh? I have never had to repeat myself to anybody. Since we're both salt-water vendors, so to speak, brought up on salt-water, well, this town isn't big enough for both of us. Come on!" He stripped off his coat, took out his catapult and loaded it.

Motley Glass pressed closer, saying, "All right, Uncle Dai, you have any trouble up north in future, you just let us know. Hey, but watch out for his pigtail!"

Second Simpleton heard something about drinking salt water and was even more nonplussed, but without giving him a chance to get it straight, Dai pressed him viciously.

"How do you want to play then?"

"Come off it!" Second Simpleton said, "I've seen what you can do. What's the point of us arguing?"

"You hear that?" Killer Cui called from the side. "He only says he's 'seen what you can do', Uncle Dai, he didn't say if it was any good. Seen it, he says, so what? Like he's seen a candy-floss maker or someone making dough dollies!"

This was further fanning the flames. Panting with rage, Dai glared at Second Simpleton:

"If you won't move, I will!" He had already stretched the catapult, the taut straps quivering.

Second Simpleton thought a second, then moved some ten metres or so away and stood firm.

"You shoot three pellets at me," he said to Dai, "and then we'll call it quits, all right?"

"Three? No need, one will break your bones! Watch…." Having spoken, Dai took a big step back with his right foot and bent his torso backwards into an "Iron Planked Bridge". This stance is also called "The Conqueror Drawing His Bow Backwards". His fingers relaxed, the catapult twanged and a mud pellet flew towards Second Simpleton so fast you could not see it, just the "whizz!" audible as it shot through the air. Then, "whack!" the pellet fell back into the centre of the "ring", bounced three times, rolled over twice and stopped. Another look revealed that Second Simpleton's pigtail was now resting on his shoulders. The pellet had clearly been swatted to the ground by the pigtail! This was truly beyond the ken of ordinary mortals, and it let Dai and the others witness with their own eyes the pigtail's inconceivable miraculous powers.

Dai had lost the first round. Giving no thought to what he had said just a moment before, quick as a flash he produced those two iron pellets he had concealed in his waist and shot them off simultaneously. This was called "Twin Pearls Vying for First Place", one making straight for Second Simpleton's head, the other for his belly, so if he dodged one, he could not avoid the other. This was a trick of the trade he very rarely used.

The iron pellets were big and heavy and flew through the air with a "whoosh!" Second Simpleton called out "Nice one!" twisting his body, the great black pigtail whirling like lightning, describing a large black circle in the air, "whack!" "whack!" Again the two pellets were swatted down. The heavy balls now lay half buried in the ground, while Second Simpleton stood there nonchalantly, as if he had just swatted a pair of flies, nothing special. The others were completely dumbstruck.

No one would have believed it unless they had seen it with their own eyes. But it had happened, whether one believed it or not.

Dai Kuiyi's large face went purple. He could not strike again. Originally he had said that he would only need one pellet, but he had already shot three. In any case, he had used his most lethal shot, so he had to admit defeat. He tucked the catapult back into his belt, and clasping his hands in front of his chest said:

"That round's yours. Put up your fists!"

Second Simpleton waved his hands in refusal saying:

"Uncle Dai, if you want to fight, I won't hit back. Today let's just say we made friends, no comparing of fighting skills, eh? You let off a couple of pellets for fun, that's all, eh?"

He said this without the slightest hint of sarcasm, making it plain that he did not want any more trouble. Dai reckoned that if he left it at that, he could still go back with face; if he went on fussing and fighting, he would certainly lose it all right there. He definitely could not handle that pigtail which came and went like a shadow and seemed to have a will and skill of its own. Best to take this opportunity and swiftly retire. At this point, Second Simpleton spoke up again:

"Uncle Dai, I'm a seller of deep-fried bean-curd, not a professional fighter, neither have I any intention of becoming one. I don't want to start a feud with anyone. I couldn't make head or tail of all that stuff you said just now — what do you mean, I'm a salt-water vendor? All my previous generations were from Anci County, and I was born there myself. Another thing, who's this miraculous pigtail you talk about? Maybe you got mixed up somewhere, or maybe someone was having you on? Anyway, what I've said is the truth, every word of it on the level."

This immediately dissolved Dai's temper. He did not answer directly, but instead, clasping his fists in front of his face, he took his leave of Second Simpleton, saying:

"You're a bright lad. I'm … off!" With that he turned and went without paying the least heed to Motley Glass and Killer Cui.

Seeing that everything was over, Second Simpleton also went home.

Motley Glass caught up with Dai. "Uncle Dai," he begged, "you can't just leave it at that. Don't listen to that simpleton's sweet talk. If you go, then you're admitting defeat. Haven't you got another way to 'swap eyeballs'?"

Dai Kuiyi seemed about to explode, but he strode on and on without saying a word, until suddenly he stopped dead and swore fiercely at Motley Glass, "Sod off, will you? You damn near ruined my reputation! You couldn't bloody handle someone, so you drag me in to pass the buck. I've never been so put out in my whole life, and you still want to push me into the line of fire. I'll first damn well swap you an eyeball!" With which he grabbed his catapult and prepared to let rip. In a moment the straps were pulled taut as thin as thread. It seemed he wanted to purge all his anger in this one shot.

Motley Glass threw himself onto his knees in terror, crying out:

"Uncle Dai, Uncle Dai, you're my gov'nor! You can't waste me, I've got an eighty-year-old mother and a baby to support!"

He was bullshitting, of course. He never had a family. This was a set phrase used by all those in the underworld to beg for their lives.

Thugs were not afraid of death. Motley Glass had always treated death as a game, so why had he gone soft today? Was it possible that Second Simpleton's pigtail had broken his backbone? After this Motley Glass would be despised by everyone.

"Killer Cui, why don't you do something?"

Killer Cui laughed coldly and didn't reply. This was just what he wanted. Motley Glass could do nothing but kneel before Dai and beg.

Dai pulled fiercely on the catapult, but did not shoot the pellet, snapping the ox-tendon straps with a "crack!" then flinging the forked frame into a ditch. With a face set like iron he strode off with his lackeys without a word.

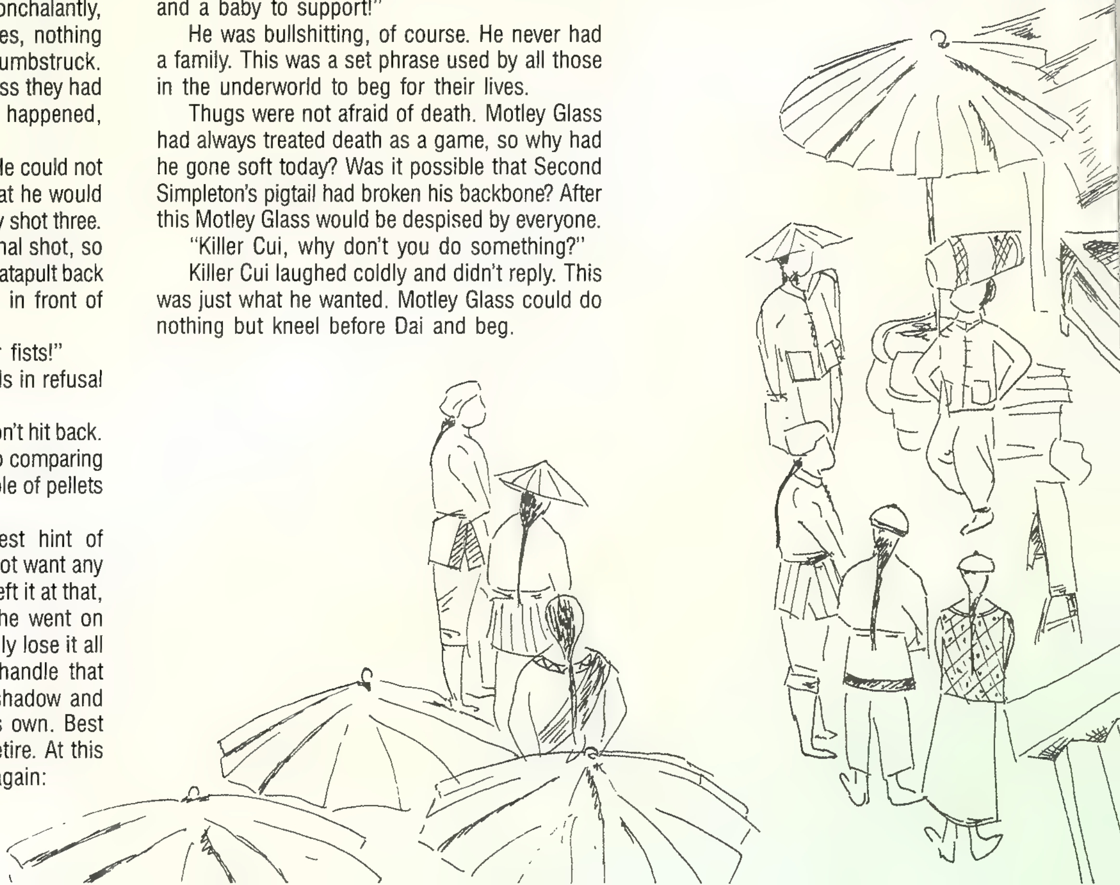
Motley Glass remained kneeling a while. Suddenly he remembered Killer Cui and looked around, but no one was there. Killer Cui had scarpered long ago.

He stood up, thought a second, and decided that since things were not too promising it would be best to head straight for "The Pot" at the north gate. "The Pot" was the place where the thugs and layabouts met to discuss things. Killer Cui happened to be there already, and Motley Glass had a go at him the moment he got there. Unlike normally, Killer Cui was not only not scared of him, he was fiercer than him, and he had the crowd of little louts who always followed him around to back him up. Formerly, Motley Glass had been the meanest of the mean, the boss on Guyi Street and able to stand up against anything. Now it seemed his prestige had all gone, and there was no way to force his way back up, so the others pressed forward, howling like a pack of angry dogs. He had nowhere to go, so he raced back to the Hall of Auspicious Fungi, thinking to go straight to his room in the rear. The assistant at the counter happened to be Cai Liu. The fellow smiled ingratiatingly, made a few caustic remarks and instead of inviting him in, asked him to leave.

"Right! So everyone is beating the broken drum, eh?" The enraged Motley Glass cursed from the road, "Wait until we've ripped off that simpleton's pigtail, then we'll be back to flatten your bloody shop!"

Cai Liu gently dusted the top of the counter with his feather duster, pretending he had not heard. Everyone on the street stopped to watch Motley Glass raging and cursing with the ferocity of a tiger in a cage. Though it was terrifying to behold, there was actually nothing to be frightened of.

Translated by John Moffett



JINLING HOTEL

In the Heart of Nanjing

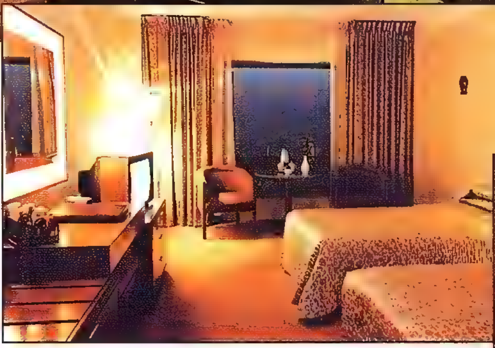
The provincial capital of Jiangsu and, like Beijing and Xi'an, one of China's famous ancient capitals, Nanjing has been a cultural centre for over 2,400 years. It is now an attractive city with tree-lined avenues, many historical relics and one of China's finest hotels.

Visitors to the city can enjoy modern living at the Jinling Hotel which stands magnificently in the city centre. As it embarks on its sixth year of operations, the hotel is pleased to continue offering visitors a luxurious place to stay, where they can also eat, shop, conduct business and relax.

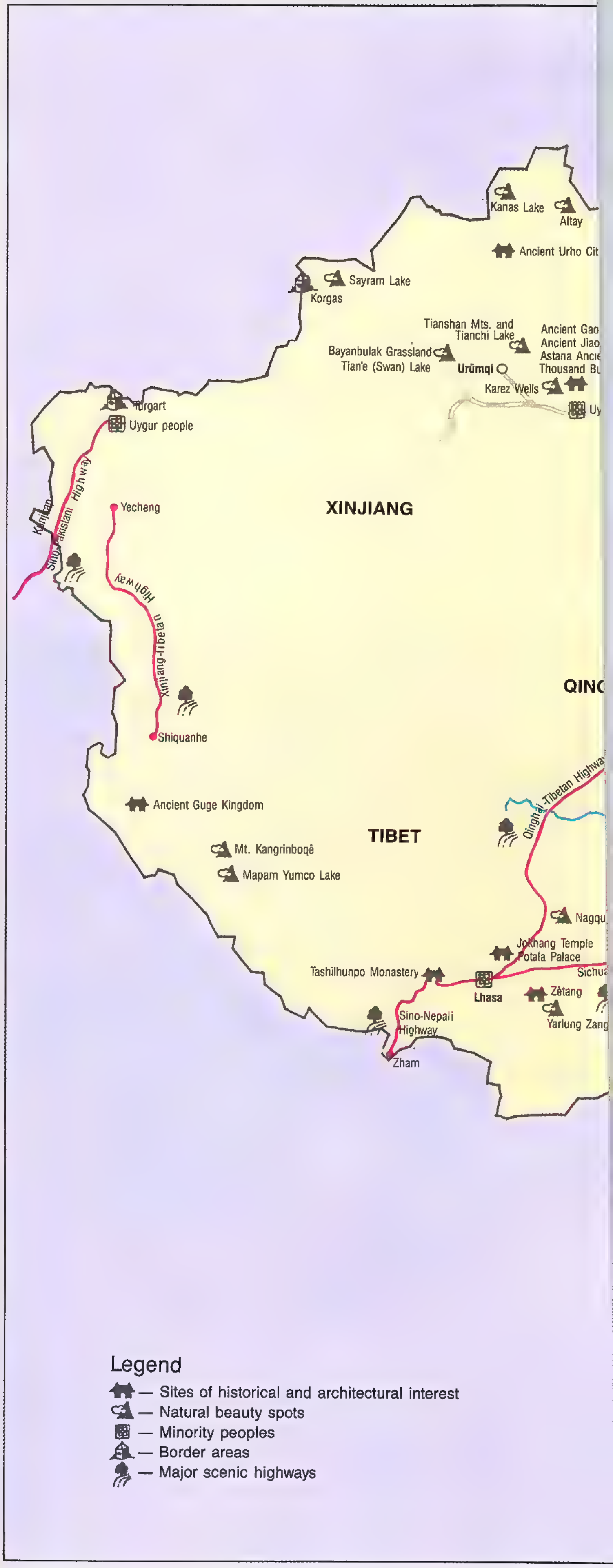
The 37-storey hotel has 818 units including 496 twin rooms, 198 single rooms, 34 suites and three presidential suites. All rooms provide a view of either the River Yangtse or the Zijin (Purple Gold) Mountains. A full range of Chinese and Western cuisine and beverages is served in the hotel's six restaurants and bars. To top the whole thing off in style, the Sky Palace, the revolving lounge on the 36th floor, provides panoramic views over Nanjing.

The hotel's convention and banqueting facilities include a 1,000-square-metre ballroom equipped with a six-channel simultaneous interpretation system as well as audiovisual systems. There also nearly twenty function rooms and a business centre.

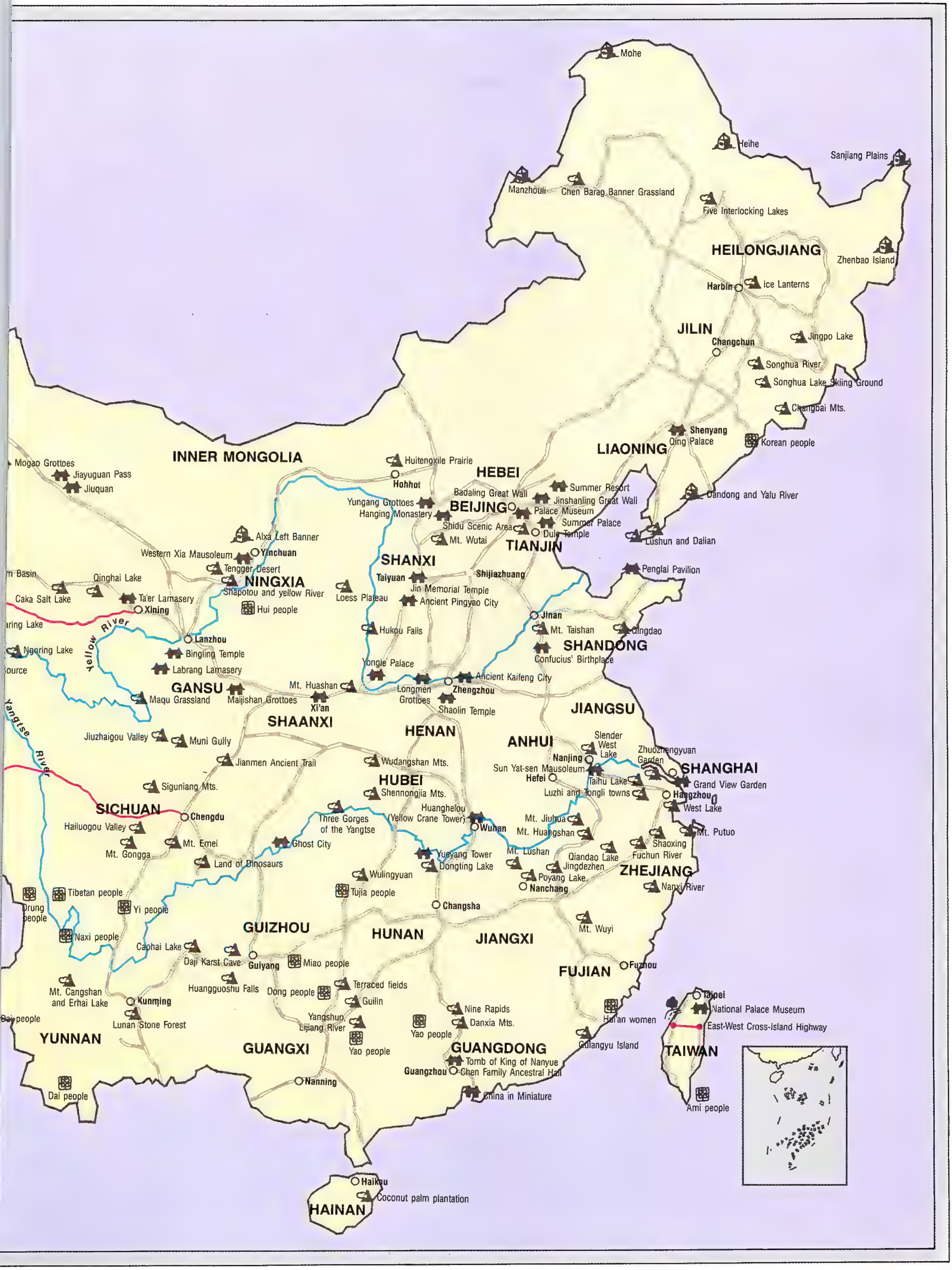
Apart from these, the hotel has a health and recreation centre, a shopping arcade and all the other facilities and services which the modern traveller demands.



China's Key Tourist Attractions


Kanas Lake
Altay
Ancient Urho Cit
Sayram Lake
Korgas
Tianshan Mts. and
Tianchi Lake
Bayanbulak Grassland
Tian'e (Swan) Lake
Ürümqi
Ancient Gao
Ancient Jiao
Astana Ancie
Thousand Bu
Karez Wells
Uy
Turgart
Uygur people
Khunjerab
Sino-Pakistani Highway
Yecheng
Xinjiang-Tibetan Highway
XINJIANG
QING
Shiquanhe
Ancient Guge Kingdom
Mt. Kangrinboqê
Mapam Yumco Lake
TIBET
Qinghai-Tibetan Highway
Nagqu
Jokhang Temple
Potala Palace
Sichua
Tashilhunpo Monastery
Lhasa
Zêtang
Yarlung Zang
Sino-Nepali
Highway
Zham
Legend
— Sites of historical and architectural interest
— Natural beauty spots
— Minority peoples
— Border areas
— Major scenic highways

Whatever the traveller's specific interests and tastes, China can offer an astonishing range of sights and scenery. Here we identify just some of the best.


Mohe
Heihe
Sanjiang Plains
Manzhouli
Chen Barag Banner Grassland
Five Interlocking Lakes
HEILONGJIANG
Zhenbao Island
Harbin
Ice Lanterns
JILIN
Changchun
Jingpo Lake
Songhua River
Songhua Lake Skiing Ground
Changbai Mts.
Shenyang
Qing Palace
LIAONING
Korean people
Mogao Grottoes
Jiayuguan Pass
Jiuquan
INNER MONGOLIA
Huitengxile Prairie
Hohhot
HEBEI
Summer Resort
Badaling Great Wall
Jinshanling Great Wall
Dandong and Yalu River
Yungang Grottoes
Hanging Monastery
BEIJING
Palace Museum
Summer Palace
Shidu Scenic Area
Dule Temple
Mt. Wutai
TIANJIN
Lushun and Dalian
Alxa Left Banner
Western Xia Mausoleum
Yinchuan
Tengger Desert
SHANXI
Penglai Pavilion
m Basin
Qinghai Lake
NINGXIA
Taiyuan
Shijiazhuang
Jin Memorial Temple
Shapotou and yellow River
Loess Plateau
Ancient Pingyao City
Caka Salt Lake
Ta'er Lamasery
Xining
Hui people
Jinan
aring Lake
Yellow River
Hukou Falls
Mt. Taishan
Qingdao
Lanzhou
Ngoring Lake
Bingling Temple
SHANDONG
Confucius' Birthplace
Source
Labrang Lamasery
Yongle Palace
Ancient Kaifeng City
GANSU
Mt. Huashan
Longmen Grottoes
Zhengzhou
Maqu Grassland
Maijishan Grottoes
Xi'an
Shaolin Temple
JIANGSU
SHAANXI
Yangtse River
HENAN
Jiuzhaigou Valley
Muni Gully
ANHUI
Slender West Lake
Nanjing
Zhuozhengyuan Garden
Jianmen Ancient Trail
Wudangshan Mts.
Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum
SHANGHAI
Hefei
Grand View Garden
Siguniang Mts.
HUBEI
Taihu Lake
Shennongjia Mts.
Luzhi and Tongli towns
Hangzhou
SICHUAN
Huanghelou
West Lake
Chengdu
Three Gorges of the Yangtse
(Yellow Crane Tower)
Hailuogou Valley
Wuhan
Mt. Jiuhua
Mt. Putuo
Mt. Emei
Ghost City
Mt. Huangshan
Mt. Gongga
Shaoxing
Yueyang Tower
Mt. Lushan
Qiandao Lake
Fuchun River
Land of Dinosaurs
Dongting Lake
Jingdezhen
ZHEJIANG
Wulingyuan
Poyang Lake
Nanxi River
Tibetan people
Nanchang
Tujia people
Drung people
Yi people
Changsha
Mt. Wuyi
GUIZHOU
HUNAN
JIANGXI
Naxi people
Caohai Lake
Daji Karst Cave
Guiyang
Miao people
FUJIAN
Fuzhou
Huangguoshu Falls
Terraced fields
Mt. Cangshan and Erhai Lake
Dong people
Guilin
Taipei
Kunming
National Palace Museum
Hui'an women
Nine Rapids
Yangshuo, Lijiang River
Dai people
Lunan Stone Forest
Danxia Mts.
East-West Cross-Island Highway
Yao people
YUNNAN
GUANGXI
Yao people
GUANGDONG
Gulangyu Island
TAIWAN
Tomb of King of Nanyue
Guangzhou
Chen Family Ancestral Hall
Nanning
China in Miniature
Dai people
Ami people
Haikou
Coconut palm plantation
HAINAN

CHINA'S KEY TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Tourist Attraction		City/County/Location		Province/Region/Municipality	
Mt. Huangshan	黃山	Huangshan	黃山	Anhui	安徽
Mt. Jiuhua	九華山	Qingyang	青陽		
Badaling Great Wall	八達嶺長城			Beijing	北京
Palace Museum	故宮				
Shidu Scenic Area	十渡風景區				
Summer Palace	頤和園				
Hui'an women	惠安女	Chongwu	崇武	Fujian	福建
Gulangyu Island	鼓浪嶼	Xiamen	廈門		
Mt. Wuyi	武夷山	Chong'an	崇安		
Bingling Temple	炳靈寺	Yongjing	永靖	Gansu	甘肅
Jiayuguan Pass	嘉峪關	Jiayuguan	嘉峪關		
Jiuquan	酒泉	Jiuquan	酒泉		
Labrang Lamasery	拉卜楞寺	Xiahe	夏河		
Maijishan Grottoes	麥積山石窟	Tianshui	天水		
Mogao Grottoes	莫高窟	Dunhuang	敦煌		
Maqu Grasslands	瑪曲草原	Southern Gansu	甘肅南部		
Tomb of King of Nanyue	南越王墓	Guangzhou	廣州	Guangdong	廣東
Chen Family Ancestral Hall	陳家祠	Guangzhou	廣州		
China's Attractions in Miniature	錦綉中華	Shenzhen	深圳		
Yao people	瑤族	Liannan	連南		
Danxia Mts.	丹霞山	Renhua	仁化		
Nine Rapids	九瀧十八灘	Lechang, Wushui River	樂昌、武水		
Guilin	桂林	Guilin	桂林	Guangxi	廣西
Yangshuo, Lijiang River	陽朔、漓江	Yangshuo	陽朔		
Terraced fields	梯田	Longsheng	龍勝		
Yao people	瑤族	Jinxiu, Dayao Mts.	金秀、大瑤山		
Dong people	侗族	Sanjiang	三江		
Miao people	苗族	Kaili	凱里	Guizhou	貴州
Huangguoshu Falls	黃果樹瀑布	Guanling	關嶺		
Caohai Lake	草海	Weining	威寧		
Daji Karst Cave	打鷄岩溶洞	Zhijin	織金		
Coconut palm plantation	椰林	Wenchang	文昌	Hainan	海南
Summer Resort	避暑山莊	Chengde	承德	Hebei	河北
Jinshanling Great Wall	金山嶺長城	Gubeikou	古北口		
Ice Lanterns	冰燈	Harbin	哈爾濱	Heilongjiang	黑龍江
Jingpo Lake	鏡泊湖	Ning'an	寧安		
Five Interlocking Lakes	五大連池	Dedu	德都		
Heihe	黑河	Heihe	黑河		
Mohe	漠河	Mohe	漠河		
Zhenbao Island	珍寶島	Wusuli (Ussuri) River	烏蘇里江		
Sanjiang Plains	三江平原	Wusuli, Songhua and Heilongjiang rivers	烏蘇里江、松花江、黑龍江		
Longmen Grottoes	龍門石窟	Luoyang	洛陽	Henan	河南
Shaolin Temple	少林寺	Songshan Mt., Dengfeng	嵩山、登封		
Ancient Kaifeng City	開封古城	Kaifeng	開封		
Wudangshan Mts.	武當山	Junxian	均縣	Hubei	湖北
Shennongjia Mts.	神農山	Shennongjia Linqu	神農架林區		
Huanghelou (Yellow Crane Tower)	黃鶴樓	Wuhan	武漢		
Wulingyuan	武陵源	Dayong, Sangzhi and Cili	大庸、桑植、慈利	Hunan	湖南
Dongting Lake	洞庭湖	Yueyang	岳陽		
Tujia people	土家族	Western Hunan	湖南西部		
Yueyang Tower	岳陽樓	Yueyang	岳陽		

Chen Barag Banner Grassland	陳巴爾虎旗草原	Hulun Buir Grassland	呼倫貝爾草原	Inner Mongolia	內蒙古
Huitengxile Prairie	輝騰錫勒草原	Qahar Youyi Central Banner	察哈爾右翼中旗		
Tengger Desert	騰格里沙漠	Alxa Left Banner	阿拉善左旗		
Manzhouli	滿洲里	Manzhouli	滿洲里		
Alxa Left Banner	阿拉善左旗	Alxa Left Banner	阿拉善左旗		
Zhuozhengyuan Garden	拙政園	Suzhou	蘇州	Jiangsu	江蘇
Taihu Lake	太湖	Wuxi	無錫		
Luzhi and Tongli towns	甪直、同里	Suzhou	蘇州		
Slender West Lake	瘦西湖	Yangzhou	揚州		
Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum	中山陵	Nanjing	南京		
Mt. Lushan	廬山	Jiujiang	九江	Jiangxi	江西
Poyang Lake	鄱陽湖	Northern Jiangxi	江西北部		
Jingdezhen	景德鎮	Jingdezhen	景德鎮		
Changbai Mts.	長白山	Southeastern Jilin	吉林東南部	Jilin	吉林
Songhua River	松花江	Jilin	吉林		
Songhua Lake Skiing Ground	松花湖高山滑雪場	Jilin	吉林		
Korean people	朝鮮族	Ji'an	集安		
Qing Palace	故宮	Shenyang	瀋陽	Liaoning	遼寧
Lüshun and Dalian	旅順、大連	Lüshun, Dalian	旅順、大連		
Dandong and Yalu River	丹東、鴨綠江	Dandong	丹東		
Shapotou and Yellow River	沙坡頭、黃河	Zhongwei	中衛	Ningxia	寧夏
Tengger Desert	騰格里沙漠	Zhongwei	中衛		
Western Xia Mausoleum	西夏王陵	Yinchuan	銀川		
Hui people	回族	Tongxin	同心		
Qinghai Lake	青海湖	Northeastern Qinghai	青海東北部	Qinghai	青海
Gyaring Lake	扎陵湖	Madoi	瑪多		
Ngoring Lake	鄂陵湖	Madoi	瑪多		
Caka Salt Lake	茶卡鹽湖	Caka	茶卡		
Qaidam Basin	柴達木盆地	Northwestern Qinghai	青海西北部		
Yellow River Source	黃河源	Madoi	瑪多		
Ta'er Lamasery	塔爾寺	Huangzhong	湟中		
Xi'an	西安	Xi'an	西安	Shaanxi	陝西
Mt. Huashan	華山	Huayin	華陰		
Loess Plateau	黃土高原	Yan'an and Yulin	延安、榆林		
Mt. Taishan	泰山	Tai'an	泰安	Shandong	山東
Qingdao	青島	Qingdao	青島		
Confucius' Birthplace	孔子誕生地	Qufu	曲阜		
Penglai Pavilion	蓬萊閣	Penglai	蓬萊		
Grand View Garden	大觀園	Qingpu	青浦	Shanghai	上海
Hanging Monastery	懸空寺	Hengshan Mts., Hunyuan	恒山，渾源	Shanxi	山西
Yungang Grottoes	雲岡石窟	Datong	大同		
Ancient Pingyao City	平遙古城	Pingyao	平遙		
Yongle Palace	永樂宮	Ruicheng	芮城		
Jin Memorial Temple	晉祠	Taiyuan	太原		
Mt. Wutai	五台山	Wutai	五台		
Hukou Falls	壺口瀑布	Yellow River, Jixian	黃河、吉縣		
Jiuzhaigou Valley	九寨溝	Nanping	南坪	Sichuan	四川
Hailuogou Valley	海螺溝	Luding	瀘定		
Three Gorges of the Yangtse	長江三峽	Fengjie and Wushan	奉節，巫山		
Siguniang Mts.	四姑娘山	Xiaojin	小金		
Mt. Emei	峨嵋山	Emei	峨嵋		
Mt. Gongga	貢嘎山	Kangding	康定		
Jianmen Ancient Trail	劍門蜀道	Jiange	劍閣		
Land of Dinosaurs	恐龍之鄉	Zigong	自貢		
Yi people	彝族	Liangshan Mts.	涼山		
Ghost City	鬼城	Fengdu	酆都		
Big Buddha	大佛	Leshan	樂山		
Ami people	雅美族	Lanyu Island	蘭嶼	Taiwan	台灣
East-West Cross-Island Highway	東西橫貫公路	Across Centre of Taiwan	橫跨台灣中部		
National Palace Museum	故宮博物院	Taipei	台北		

Dule Temple	獨樂寺	Jixian	薊縣	Tianjin	天津
Lhasa	拉薩	Lhasa	拉薩	Tibet	西藏
Potala Palace	布達拉宮	Lhasa	拉薩		
Jokhang Temple	大昭寺	Lhasa	拉薩		
Tashilhunpo Monastery	扎什倫布寺	Xigazê	日喀則		
Ancient Guge Kingdom	古格王國	Ngari (Ali)	阿里		
Zêtang	澤當	Shannan	山南		
Yarlung Zangbo River	雅魯藏布江	Southern Tibet	西藏南部		
Mt. Kangrinboqê	岡仁波齊峰	Burang	普蘭		
Mapam Yumco Lake	瑪旁雍錯湖	Burang	普蘭		
Nagqu Grassland	那曲草原	Northern Tibet	西藏北部		
Tianshan Mts. and Tianchi Lake	天山、天池	Urümqi	烏魯木齊	Xinjiang	新疆
Altay	阿勒泰	Altay	阿勒泰		
Kanas Lake	哈納斯湖	Altay	阿勒泰		
Sayram Lake	賽里木湖	Bole	博樂		
Bayanbulak Grassland	巴音布魯克草原	Bayanbulak	巴音布魯克		
Tian'e (Swan) Lake	天鵝湖	Bayanbulak	巴音布魯克		
Karez Wells	坎兒井	Turpan	吐魯番		
Mt. Huoyan (Flaming)	火焰山	Turpan	吐魯番		
Uygur people	維吾爾族	Turpan and Kashi	吐魯番、喀什		
Turgart	吐爾尕特	Kashi (Kashgar)	喀什		
Korgas	霍爾果斯	Yining	伊寧		
Ancient Gaochang City	高昌故城	Turpan	吐魯番		
Ancient Jiaohe City	交河故城	Turpan	吐魯番		
Astana Ancient Tombs	阿斯塔那古墓群	Turpan	吐魯番		
Thousand Buddha Caves	千佛洞	Turpan	吐魯番		
Ancient Urho City	古烏爾禾城	Urho	烏爾禾		
Dai people	傣族	Xishuangbanna and Ruili	西雙版納、瑞麗	Yunnan	雲南
Tibetan people	藏族	Zhongdian	中甸		
Naxi people	納西族	Lijiang	麗江		
Drung people	獨龍族	Nujiang	怒江		
Mt. Cangshan and Erhai Lake	蒼山、洱海	Dali	大理		
Lunan Stone Forest	路南石林	Kunming	昆明		
West Lake	西湖	Hangzhou	杭州	Zhejiang	浙江
Mt. Putuo	普陀山	Putuo	普陀		
Qiandao Lake	千島湖	Chun'an	淳安		
Nanxi River	楠溪	Yongjia	永嘉		
Fuchun River	富春江	Lanxi to Hangzhou	蘭溪——杭州		
Shaoxing	紹興	Shaoxing	紹興		

Major Scenic Highways

Qinghai-Tibetan Highway: Xining — Golmud — Kunlun Pass — Tanggula Pass (Qinghai/Tibet) — Nagqu — Lhasa
青藏公路：西寧——格爾木——崑崙山口——唐古拉山口——那曲——拉薩

Sichuan-Tibetan Highway: Chengdu — Luding — Kangding — Mt. Chola — Qamdo (Tibet) — Nyingchi — Lhasa
川藏公路：成都——瀘定——康定——雀兒山——昌都——林芝——拉薩

Xinjiang-Tibetan Highway: Yecheng (Xinjiang) — Shiquanhe (Tibet)
新藏公路：葉城—獅泉河

Sino-Nepali Highway: Lhasa — Xigazê — Tingri — Zham (all in Tibet)
中尼公路：拉薩——日喀則——定日——樟木

Sino-Pakistani Highway (Karakoram Highway): Kashi — Taxkorgan — Kunjirap — Sust (Pakistan)
中巴公路：喀什——塔什庫爾干——紅其拉甫——Sust

626 Cities and Areas Open to Foreign Tourists

Starting from August 1989, China's tourist cities and areas open to foreign tourists have been increased from 436 in November 30, 1986 to 626. Foreigners with valid visas or residence permits may now visit the following cities and areas:

Note:
C: County
AC: Autonomous County

Beijing Municipality	北京市
Shanghai Municipality	上海市
Tianjin Municipality	天津市

Anhui Province	安徽省
Anqing	安慶市
Bengbu	蚌埠市
Bozhou	亳州市
Chaohu	巢湖市
Chuzhou	滁州市
Dongzhi C	東至縣
Fengyang C	鳳陽縣
Fuyang	阜陽市
Fuyang C	阜陽縣
Guangde C	廣德縣
Guoyang C	渦陽縣
Hefei	合肥市
Hexian C	和縣
Huaibei	淮北市
Huainan	淮南市
Huangshan	黃山市
Jingxian C	涇縣
Mount Jiuhua Tourist Area	九華山遊覽區
Lu'an	六安市
Lu'an C	六安縣
Ma'anshan	馬鞍山市
Mengcheng C	蒙城縣
Ningguo C	寧國縣
Qianshan C	潛山縣
Quanjiao C	全椒縣
Shexian C	歙縣
Shouxian C	壽縣
Shucheng C	舒城縣
Susong C	宿松縣
Suxian C	宿縣
Suzhou	宿州市
Tianchang C	天長縣
Tongcheng C	桐城縣
Tongling	銅陵市
Tunxi	屯溪市
Wuhu	蕪湖市
Xiaoxian C	蕭縣
Xiuning C	休寧縣
Xuanzhou	宣州市
Zongyang C	樅陽縣

Fujian Province	福建省
Changding C	長汀縣
Chong'an C	崇安縣
Fuding C	福鼎縣
Fuzhou	福州市
Guangze C	光澤縣
Jian'ou C	建甌縣
Jianyang C	建陽縣
Liancheng C	連城縣
Longyan	龍岩市
Nanping	南平市
Ningde	寧德市
Pingnan C	屏南縣
Pucheng C	浦城縣
Putian	莆田市
Quanzhou	泉州市
Sanming	三明市
Shanghang C	上杭縣
Shaowu	邵武市
Shouning C	壽寧縣
Shunchang C	順昌縣
Songxi C	松溪縣
Wuping C	武平縣
Xiamen	廈門市
Xiapu C	霞浦縣
Yongding C	永定縣
Zhangping C	漳平縣
Zhangzhou	漳州市
Zhenghe C	政和縣
Zherong C	柘榮縣
Zhouning C	周寧縣

Gansu Province	甘肅省
Anxi C	安西縣
Baiyin	白銀市
Chengxian C	成縣
Dangchang C	宕昌縣
Dunhuang C	敦煌縣
Jiayuguan	嘉峪關市
Jinchang	金昌市
Jiuquan	酒泉市
Lanzhou	蘭州市
Linxia	臨夏市
Minqin C	民勤縣
Minxian C	岷縣
Pingliang	平涼市
Qingyang C	慶陽縣
Têwo C	迭部縣
Tianshui	天水市
Wenxian C	文縣
Wudu C	武都縣
Wuwei	武威市
Xiahe C	夏河縣
Xifeng	西峰市
Yongjing C	永靖縣
Yumen	玉門市
Zhangye	張掖市
Zhugqu C	舟曲縣

Guangdong Province	廣東省
Boluo C	博羅縣
Chaozhou	潮州市
Deqing C	德慶縣
Dongguan	東莞市
Fengkai C	封開縣
Foshan	佛山市
Gaoyao C	高要縣
Guangzhou	廣州市
Haifeng C	海豐縣
Heyuan C	河源縣
Huidong C	惠東縣
Huiyang C	惠陽縣
Huizhou	惠州市
Jiangmen	江門市
Lufeng C	陸豐縣
Maoming	茂名市
Meixian	梅縣市
Shantou	汕頭市
Shaoguan	韶關市
Shenzhen	深圳市
Sihui C	四會縣
Xingning C	興寧縣
Xinxing C	新興縣
Yunfu C	雲浮縣
Zhanjiang	湛江市
Zhaoqing	肇慶市
Zhongshan	中山市
Zhuhai	珠海市

Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	廣西壯族自治區
Beihai	北海市
Beiliu C	北流縣
Binyang C	賓陽縣
Guilin	桂林市
Guiping C	桂平縣
Guixian C	貴縣
Hepu C	合浦縣
Jinxiu Yao AC	金秀瑤族自治縣
Lingshan C	靈山縣
Liuzhou	柳州市
Long'an C	隆安縣
Longsheng Various Nationalities AC	龍勝各族自治縣
Luchuan C	陸川縣
Nanning	南寧市
Qinzhou	欽州市
Rongshui Miao AC	融水苗族自治縣
Rongxian C	容縣
Sanjiang Dong AC	三江侗族自治縣
Wuzhou	梧州市
Xing'an C	興安縣
Yulin	玉林市

Guizhou Province	貴州省
Anshun	安順市
Anshun C	安順縣
Bijie C	畢節縣
Chishui C	赤水縣
Dafang C	大方縣
Dushan c	獨山縣
Duyun	都勻市
Guiyang	貴陽市
Huangguoshu Tourist Area	黃果樹遊覽區
Jiangkou C	江口縣
Kaili	凱里市
Lupanshui	六盤水市
Pingba C	平壩縣
Qianxi C	黔西縣
Qingzhen C	清鎮縣
Shibing C	施秉縣
Taijiang C	台江縣
Tongren C	銅仁縣
Xingyi	興義市
Zhenyuan C	鎮遠縣
Zhijin C	織金縣
Zunyi	遵義市
Zunyi C	遵義縣

Hainan Province	海南省
Baisha C	白沙縣
Baoting C	保亭縣
Changjiang C	昌江縣
Chengmai C	澄邁縣
Danxian C	儋縣
Ding'an C	定安縣
Dongfang C	東方縣
Haikou	海口市
Ledong C	樂東縣
Lingao C	臨高縣
Lingshui C	陵水縣
Qionghai C	瓊海縣
Qiongshan C	瓊山縣
Qiongzhong C	瓊中縣
Sanya	三亞市
Tunchang C	屯昌縣
Wanning C	萬寧縣
Wenchang C	文昌縣

Hebei Province	河北省
Baoding	保定市
Botou	泊頭市
Cangzhou	滄州市
Chengde	承德市

Handan	邯鄲市
Jixian C	冀縣
Langfang	廊坊市
Luanping C (Jinshanling Great Wall)	灤平縣（金山嶺長城）
Nangong	南宮市
Qinhuangdao	秦皇島市
Shahe	沙河市
Shijiazhuang	石家莊市
Tangshan	唐山市
Xingtai	邢台市
Xinji	辛集市
Yixian C	易縣
Zhaoxian C	趙縣
Zhuoxian C	涿縣

Heilongjiang Province 黑龍江省

Anda	安達市
Bei'an	北安市
Daqing	大慶市
Fangzheng C	方正縣
Hailun C	海倫縣
Harbin	哈爾濱市
Hegang	鶴崗市
Heihe	黑河市
Jagdaqi District (under the administration of the Greater Hinggan Range Administrative Office)	加格達奇區（屬大興安嶺行政公署轄）
Jiamusi	佳木斯市
Jixi	鷄西市
Mudanjiang	牡丹江市
Nenjiang C	嫩江縣
Qiqihar	齊齊哈爾市
Qitaihe	七台河市
Shangzhi C	尚志縣
Shuangcheng C	雙城縣
Shuangyashan	雙鴨山市
Suihua	綏化市
Suileng C	綏棱縣
Wuchang C	五常縣
Wudalianchi	五大連池市
Yichun	伊春市
Zhaodong C	肇東縣

Henan Province 河南省

Anyang	安陽市
Hebi	鶴壁市
Jiaozuo	焦作市
Kaifeng	開封市
Luohe	漯河市
Luoyang	洛陽市
Nanyang	南陽市
Pingdingshan	平頂山市
Puyang	濮陽市
Sanmenxia	三門峽市
Shangqiu	商丘市
Wenxian C	溫縣
Xinxiang	新鄉市
Xinyang	信陽市
Xuchang	許昌市
Zhengzhou	鄭州市
Zhoukou	周口市
Zhumadian	駐馬店市

Hubei Province 湖北省

Anlu	安陸市
Badong C	巴東縣
Changyang Tujia AC	長陽土家族自治縣
Chongyang C	崇陽縣
Dangyang C	當陽縣
Danjiangkou	丹江口市
Enshi	恩施市
Ezhou	鄂州市
Gong'an C	公安縣
Hanchuan c	漢川縣
Hong'an C	紅安縣
Honghu C	洪湖縣
Huanggang C	黃岡縣
Huangmei C	黃梅縣
Huangshi	黃石市
Jiangling C	江陵縣
Jianli C	監利縣
Jianshi C	建始縣
Jiayu C	嘉魚縣
Jingmen	荊門市
Jingshan C	京山縣
Lichuan	利川市
Luotian C	羅田縣
Puqi C	蒲圻縣
Qianjiang C	潛江縣
Qichun C	蘄春縣
Shashi	沙市市
Shishou	石首市
Shiyan	十堰市
Songzi C	松滋縣
Tianmen	天門市
Tongcheng C	通城縣
Tongshan C	通山縣
Wufeng Tujia AC	五峰土家族自治縣
Wuhan	武漢市
Wuxue	武穴市
Xianfeng C	咸豐縣
Xiangfan	襄樊市
Xianning	咸寧市
Xiantao	仙桃市
Xiaogan	孝感市
Xingshan C	興山縣
Xishui C	浠水縣
Yangxin C	陽新縣
Yichang	宜昌市
Yichang C	宜昌縣
Yingcheng	應城市
Yingshan C	英山縣
Yunmeng C	雲夢縣
Yunxian C	鄖縣
Zhicheng	枝城市
Zhijiang C	枝江縣
Zhongxiang C	鐘祥縣
Zigui C	秭歸縣

Hunan Province 湖南省

Anren C	安仁縣
Anxiang C	安鄉縣
Changde	常德市
Changde C	常德縣
Changsha	長沙市
Chenxian C	郴縣
Chenzhou	郴州市
Dayong	大庸市
Dong'an C	東安縣
Fenghuang C	鳳凰縣
Guidong C	桂東縣
Guiyang C	桂陽縣
Hanshou C	漢壽縣
Hengyang	衡陽市
Jianghua Yao AC	江華瑤族自治縣
Jinshi	津市市
Jishou	吉首市
Lengshuijiang	冷水江市
Lengshuitan	冷水灘市
Lianyuan C	漣源縣
Linli C	臨澧縣
Lixian C	澧縣
Loudi	婁底市
Nanxian C	南縣
Qiyang C	祁陽縣
Rucheng C	汝城縣
Sangzhi C	桑植縣
Shaoyang	邵陽市
Taojiang C	桃江縣
Taoyuan C	桃源縣
Xiangtan	湘潭市
Xinhuang Dong AC	新晃侗族自治縣
Xupu C	漵浦縣
Yiyang	益陽市
Yizhang C	宜章縣
Yongshun C	永順縣
Yongxing C	永興縣
Yongzhou	永州市
Yuanjiang C	沅江縣
Yuanling C	沅陵縣
Yueyang	岳陽市
Zhijiang C	芷江縣
Zhuzhou	株洲市
Zixing	資興市

Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region 內蒙古自治區

Baotou	包頭市
Chifeng	赤峯市
Dalad Banner	達拉特旗
Dongsheng	東勝市
Erenhot	二連浩特市
Hailar	海拉爾市
Hohhot	呼和浩特市
Manzhouli	滿州里市
Tongliao	通遼市
Ulanhot	烏蘭浩特市
Xilinhot	錫林浩特市
Zalantun	扎蘭屯市

Jiangsu Province 江蘇省

Changzhou	常州市
Huaiyin	淮陰市
Lianyungang	連雲港市
Nanjing	南京市
Nantong	南通市
Suzhou	蘇州市
Wuxi	無錫市
Xuzhou	徐州市
Yancheng	鹽城市
Yangzhou	揚州市
Zhenjiang	鎮江市

Jiangxi Province 江西省

Chongren C	崇仁縣
Dexing C	德興縣
Fengxin C	奉新縣
Fuzhou	撫州市
Ganxian C	贛縣
Ganzhou	贛州市
Ji'an	吉安市
Ji'an C	吉安縣
Jingdezhen	景德鎮市
Jinggangshan	井岡山市
Jiujiang	九江市
Le'an C	樂安縣
Nanchang	南昌市
Nanfeng C	南豐縣
Pingxiang	萍鄉市
Quannan C	全南縣
Shanggao C	上高縣
Wanzai C	萬載縣
Wuyuan C	婺源縣
Xinyu	新余市
Xunwu C	尋烏縣
Yanshan C	鉛山縣
Yichun	宜春市
Yifeng C	宜豐縣
Yihuang C	宜黃縣
Yingtan	鷹潭市
Yiyang C	弋陽縣

Jilin Province 吉林省

Antu C (Mount Changbai Nature Reserve)	安圖縣（長白山自然保護區）
Baicheng	白城市
Changchun	長春市
Gongzhuling	公主嶺市
Hunjiang	渾江市
Jilin	吉林市
Liaoyuan	遼源市
Longjing C	龍井縣
Meihekou	梅河口市
Siping	四平市
Tonghua	通化市
Tumen	圖們市
Yanji	延吉市

Liaoning Province 遼寧省

Anshan	鞍山市
Benxi	本溪市
Chaoyang	朝陽市
Dalian	大連市
Dandong	丹東市

Fushun	撫順市
Fuxin	阜新市
Jinzhou	錦州市
Liaoyang	遼陽市
Panjin	盤錦市
Shenyang	瀋陽市
Tieling	鐵嶺市
Yingkou	營口市

Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region 寧夏回族自治區

Guyuan C	固原縣
Haiyuan C	海原縣
Lingwu C	靈武縣
Pingluo C	平羅縣
Qingtongxia	青銅峽市
Shizuishan	石嘴山市
Tongxin C	同心縣
Wuzhong	吳忠市
Xiji C	西吉縣
Yanchi C	鹽池縣
Yinchuan	銀川市
Zhongning C	中寧縣
Zhongwei C	中衛縣

Qinghai Province 青海省

Dulan C	都蘭縣
Gangca C (Bird's Island on Lake Qinghai)	剛察縣（青海湖鳥島）
Golmud	格爾木市
Gonghe C	共和縣
Guide C	貴德縣
Hualong Hui AC	化隆回族自治縣
Huangzhong C (Ta'er Temple)	湟中縣（塔爾寺）
Jainca C	尖扎縣
Ledu C	樂都縣
Madoi C	瑪多縣
Tongren C	同仁縣
Ulan C	烏蘭縣
Xining	西寧市
Xunhua Salar AC	循化撒拉族自治縣

Shaanxi Province 陝西省

Ankang	安康市
Ansai C	安塞縣
Baihe C	白河縣
Baoji	寶鷄市
Danfeng C	丹鳳縣
Dingbian C	定邊縣
Ganquan C	甘泉縣
Hancheng	韓城市
Hanyin C	漢陰縣
Hanzhong	漢中市
Hengshan C	橫山縣
Huangling C	黃陵縣
Huaxian C	華縣
Huayin C	華陰縣
Jingbian C	靖邊縣
Langao C	嵐皋縣
Liuba C	留壩縣
Lüeyang C	略陽縣
Mianxian C	勉縣
Nanzheng C	南鄭縣
Ningqiang C	寧強縣
Ningxia C	寧陝縣
Pingli C	平利縣
Pucheng C	蒲城縣
Shangzhou	商州市
Shiquan C	石泉縣
Tongchuan	銅川市
Weinan	渭南市
Xi'an	西安市
Xianyang	咸陽市
Xunyang C	旬陽縣
Yan'an	延安市
Yanchang C	延長縣
Yulin	榆林市
Zhashui C	柞水縣
Zhenping C	鎮坪縣
Zhidan C	志丹縣
Zichang C	子長縣
Ziyang C	紫陽縣

Shandong Province 山東省

Dezhou	德州市
Dongying	東營市
Jinan	濟南市
Jining	濟寧市
Linyi	臨沂市
Qingdao	青島市
Rizhao	日照市
Tai'an	泰安市
Weifang	濰坊市
Weihai	威海市
Yantai	烟台市
Zaozhuang	棗莊市
Zibo	淄博市

Shanxi Province 山西省

Changzhi	長治市
Datong	大同市
Hongtong C	洪洞縣
Linfen	臨汾市
Pingyao C	平遙縣
Ruicheng C	芮城縣
Taiyuan	太原市
Yangquan	陽泉市
Yuncheng	運城市

Sichuan Province 四川省

Barkam C	馬爾康縣
Changning C	長寧縣
Chengdu	成都市
Chongqing	重慶市
Daxian	達縣市
Daxian C	達縣
Deyang	德陽市
Panzhihua	攀枝花市
Fengdu C	酆都縣
Fengjie C	奉節縣
Fuling	涪陵市
Gongxian C	珙縣
Guangyuan	廣元市
Jiang'an C	江安縣
Leshan	樂山市
Liangping C	梁平縣
Lixian C	理縣
Luzhou	瀘州市
Maoxian C	茂縣
Mianyang	綿陽市
Mingshan C	名山縣
Nanchong	南充市
Nanping C	南坪縣
Neijiang	內江市
Songpan C	松潘縣
Suining	遂寧市
Wanxian	萬縣市
Wanxian C	萬縣
Wenchuan C	汶川縣
Wushan C	巫山縣
Wuxi C	巫溪縣
Xichang	西昌市
Xingwen C	興文縣
Ya'an	雅安市
Yibin	宜賓市
Yunyang C	雲陽縣
Zhongxian C	忠縣
Zigong	自貢市

Tibet Autonomous Region 西藏自治區

Lhasa	拉薩市
Nagqu C (Nanqu Township)	那曲縣（那曲鎮）
Nêdong C (Zêtang Township)	乃東縣（澤當鎮）
Nyalam C (Zham District)	聶拉木縣（樟木區）
Xigazê C (Xigazê Township)	日喀則縣（日喀則鎮）

Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region 新疆維吾爾自治區

Aksu	阿克蘇市
Altay	阿勒泰市
Artux	阿圖什市
Bole	博樂市
Changji	昌吉市
Fukang C	阜康縣
Hami	哈密市
Hotan	和田市
Huocheng C	霍城縣
Karamay	克拉瑪依市
Kashi	喀什市
Korla	庫爾勒市
Kuqa C	庫車縣
Kuytun	奎屯市
Shache C	莎車縣
Shanshan C	鄯善縣
Shihezi	石河子市
Shufu C	疏附縣
Tacheng	塔城市
Taxkorgan Tajik AC	塔什庫爾干塔吉克自治縣
Toksun C	托克遜縣
Turpan	吐魯番市
Ürümqi	烏魯木齊市
Yecheng C	葉城縣
Yining	伊寧市

Yunan Province 雲南省

Binchuan C	賓川縣
Chengjiang C	澄江縣
Chuxiong	楚雄市
Dali	大理市
Dayao C	大姚縣
Eryuan C	洱源縣
Gejiu	箇舊市
Jianchuan C	劍川縣
Jianshui C	建水縣
Jiangchuan C	江川縣
Jinghong C	景洪縣
Kaiyuan	開遠市
Kunming	昆明市
Lijiang Naxi AC	麗江納西族自治縣
Lufeng C	祿豐縣
Luxi C	瀘西縣
Menghai C	勐海縣
Mile C	彌勒縣
Nanhua C	南華縣
Qujing	曲靖市
Simao C	思茅縣
Tonghai C	通海縣
Weishan Yi and Hui AC	巍山彝族回族自治縣
Wuding C	武定縣
Yao'an C	姚安縣
Yongren C	永仁縣
Yongsheng C	永勝縣
Yuanmou C	元謀縣
Ÿuxi	玉溪市

Zhejiang Province 浙江省

Hangzhou	杭州市
Huangyan C	黃岩縣
Huzhou	湖州市
Jiaojiang	椒江市
Jiaxing	嘉興市
Jinhua	金華市
Jinyun C	縉雲縣
Linhai	臨海市
Lishui	麗水市
Ningbo	寧波市
Putuo C (Mount Putuo Tourist Area)	普陀縣（普陀山遊覽區）
Qingtian C	青田縣
Quzhou	衢州市
Shaoxing	紹興市
Tiantai C	天台縣
Wenling	溫嶺縣
Wenzhou	溫州市
Yuhuan C	玉環縣
Zhoushan	舟山市

To the 'Father of Ice'

For a few days now my tent — which I share with my friend Hans — has been standing in one of the most beautiful spots on earth. The Jambulak Grassland at the foot of Muztagh Ata, situated in the far northwest corner of China in western Xinjiang, forms a landscape of its own. It reflects perfect harmony between mankind and nature. In the luscious meadows you find white yurts (nomad tents) made of felt, surrounded by horses, yaks, sheep and camels grazing peacefully next to each other. Kirgiz nomad woman with their striking colourful costumes move around in between. Brown gentle hills rise from the alpine pastures, contrasting with the spur of the mighty glaciers. And beyond these rise the ice-covered faces of Mount Kongur and Muztagh Ata, the 'Father of Ice'. Again and again we seek the impressive ski mountain with our eyes. We determine the ascent, measure the distances and altitude differences, and draw imaginative swings down the untouched slopes. Only the constant snow banners and the freezing nights down here at an altitude of 3,900 metres above sea-level remind us of the hardships to come.

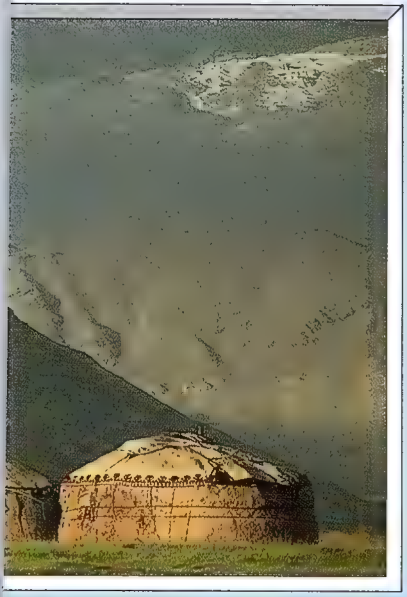
One morning a lorry approaches our camp ground. Horst, Thomas and Manfred jump from the back of it. Our team is complete!

Next morning six camels have arrived and are ready to carry our equipment up to the base camp. Camels as beasts of burden for an expedition to a 7,000-metre mountain are quite unusual for all of us. These 'ships of the desert' loaded with colourful backpacks and skis make a more than exotic impression. But here they are a tradition, for we are on the famous Silk Road and in ancient times camel caravans used to cross the Khunjerab Pass at an altitude of more than 5,000 metres.

A breath of the past touches me as our caravan starts to move. If it were not for that brown band of the Karakorum Highway with the clouds of dust caused by heavy trucks, I could imagine myself back in the former times of the Silk Road. Instead of ascending the usual route along the Jambulak Glacier, we decide to climb the Quadumak Glacier, which is more structured and better for skiing. And because our Chinese guides do not know the site of the base camp, I move far ahead to look for a suitable one. Right at the end moraine of the Quadumak Glacier I discover a flat spot covered with grass and, like a little island, surrounded by two streams which emerge from the glacier right above the campsite. Curiously watched by numerous marmots, we settle down for a longer stay. Chang, our Chinese liaison officer, builds up his small kitchen in a huge army tent and from then on serves us with delicious meals that would honour most Chinese restaurants overseas.

The following days we spend surveying the route for the ascent, transporting equipment and making three high camps. The route runs out from the base camp along the impressive moraine of the Quadumak Glacier. Then we traverse an alpine meadow with a little biotope which creates a great variety of flowers before we reach a steep rocky ridge that leads us to the ice. Apart from the marmots we do not see any bigger living creatures. We can find neither signs of wolves — met in large numbers by the Swedish explorer Sven Hedin — nor of the famous Marco Polo sheep (*Ovis poli*). We ascend the strongly marked ridge until we find a convenient spot for a ski depot at an altitude of almost 4,900 metres. From here we will climb all the way to the summit on skis. About another hour's climbing brings us to the site for the first high camp, which is located at the very end of the rocky ridge. Astonishingly, here at an altitude of 5,200 metres we discover the mighty horn of a Marco Polo sheep.

The ascent from camp 1 to camp 2 is the most interesting part of the climb which Horst and I do for the first time on one of the last fine days this autumn. It is warm, there is no wind, and the quietness and loneliness around us is complete. The clear air gives us a spectacular view into the far distance and reveals one of the most beautiful landscapes we have ever seen. Like the points of a crown, one after another, the peaks of the Karakorum Range – sparkling with ice – limit the horizon to the west and are continuously chained, like a sea of white waves, to the mountain ranges of Afghanistan. To the east of that, the highest peaks of the High Pamir tower up against a brown ocean of hills while in front of us in the east, within easy reach, is Mount Kongur. Again and again our eyes follow the way back into the valley where the bizarre ice towers at the end of the glaciers become lost in green alpine pastures. We try to identify individual peaks: Horst recognizes Malubiting, which he climbed several years ago. I believe I can see the Noshaq in the Hindu Kush and Communism Peak in the Pamir Range.



Mechanically we alternate with the leading work. At a dangerous zone of big seracs, which block our way, we decide to circumvent them to the left. We mount traversally, yielding to a huge crevasse, until we reach an altitude of 6,000 metres. Here we find an ideal spot to set up camp 2 in the middle of the giant crevasse, giving us shelter from ice falls and avalanches. Under the intensive rays of the mountain sun on this unusually mild day we face perfect corn snow on our ski run downhill. With a feeling of floating, we swing down the mountain. We stick to the tracks we made on the ascent because the numerous crevasses warn us to be careful. If we could have foreseen that this run would be our only skiing pleasure, we would have enjoyed it even more!

Then back again to expedition routine: monotonous ascents and descents from camp to camp, heavily loaded with equipment; living in an 'ice box'. Finally we reach an altitude of 6,500 metres and build camp 3 in the shelter of a huge serac. The gate to the summit is open. Day by day the temperature is falling as we approach mid-September. It is so cold we cannot move or leave the protecting tents until noon when the sun reaches the northwest side of the mountain.

The extreme coldness and a heavy storm which makes it even worse stops our first attempt to reach the summit at an altitude of about 7,000 metres. Hans starts suffering from a loss of vital power and returns to camp. His physical condition worsens dramatically during the night, so we decide to escort him down to camp 2, hoping that he will recover at the lower altitude. But our hope is not fulfilled. On the contrary, his condition becomes more and more critical. The typical signs of altitude sickness appear. He is hardly able to stand on his feet. Literally at the last minute we manage to take him back down to base camp. Horst carries him on his shoulders, while Thomas breaks trail and the rest of us carry two extra backpacks in addition to our own.

After this event our chances of reaching the summit sink to a minimum. There are only four days left before our expedition permit expires. In these four days we will have to climb up from camp to camp again, that means from 4,200 metres to the summit and back. Horst and I are willing to try this. Manfred, strong and ambitious, joins us while Thomas is to climb to camp 2 to meet us and give us help in bringing down the equipment.

In two days we reach camp 3. We then have a beautiful mild, calm day considering the season. Utilizing this rare occasion, we leave the camp very early in the morning, passing the last serac zone, and climb to the point where the glaciers of Jambulak and Quadumak meet in a seemingly endless ice plain. When we reach the highest point of that slope we recognize two peaks in front of us, separated by deep valleys. Spontaneously we decide to attempt the second highest peak of the massif instead of the main summit of Muztagh Ata (7,546 metres) which has already been climbed repeatedly. We call it Quadumak Peak for it is the direct extension of the glacier. By late afternoon we stand on the flat snowy summit, which hangs as a huge cornice over the southwest face. We do what people usually do at such moments: we take photographs and then hurry down as quickly as we can to reach the shelter of camp 3.

The ski run is dreadful. We cannot call it skiing because it is a permanent struggle against bad snow conditions. We face a kind of snow where the surface consists of long sharp icy rills, preventing any kind of swing and making even professional skiers look like beginners. It feels like moving on rails but without the appropriate vehicle.

Camp after camp is dismantled. The weight we carry on our backs is so great that none of us is able to shoulder our packs without help. We look like huge backpacks moving in slow motion. It is almost midnight and pitch-dark when we arrive at the base camp next day.

Only much later will all our impressions build up to that ineffaceable memory which constitutes the true value of such an experience.

Bruno Baumann

NEWS

Tours with a Cultural Flavour

The local authority concerned has already started to welcome tourists to the Bashang Grassland in the Fengning Manchu Autonomous County, Hebei Province. The grassland lies two hundred kilometres north of Beijing at a height of 1,400 metres above sea-level and covers around 350 square kilometres. From the county town of Fengning, a special tour can be taken to view the customs of the minorities which live on the grassland — Manchus, Mongolians, Huis, etc.

Similar excursions can also be undertaken in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in China's southwest. From Guilin, the famous beauty spot, there is a special tour to visit the Dong, Miao and Yao peoples and includes experiencing their music. And at Huashan Cliff on the River Mingjiang, about twenty-five kilometres from Ningming, one can see rock paintings 2,000 years old and some of the local rare monkey species.

Beijing's Traditional Streets

In order to preserve some of Beijing's old streets, the government has selected the first group of twelve to be supervised to ensure that they retain something of their unique atmosphere. These are: Nanchizi-Beichizi, Nanchangjie-Beichangjie, Jingshan Dongjie-Jingshanxijie, Jingshanqiangjie, Di'anmendajie, Zhishanmenjie, Yandaixiejie, Baimixiejie, Chengxianjie, Niujie, Dazhala and Liulichang (the latter the already restored 'Cultural Street' in the south of the city).

464 Nature Reserves

There are 464 nature reserves on the Chinese mainland, from the arid deserts of the north to the subtropical forests of the south. They cover a total of 22 million hectares, equivalent to 2.3 percent of the country's surface.

Six of these reserves — the Changbai Mountains in Jilin, the Dinghu Mountains in Guangdong, Wolong in Sichuan, Mount Fanjing in Guizhou, the Wuyi Mountains in Fujian and the Xilin Gol League in Inner Mongolia — have been admitted to UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve Programme.

Beijing Wildlife Farm

The Beijing Farm for Wildlife, established four years ago southwest of the capital, has become the main centre for breeding wild animals in northern China. It has so far produced more than ten thousand animals of around forty species, including the rhesus monkey, civet, lynx and white-lipped deer. According to the director, apart from breeding rare animals threatened with extinction, the farm's purpose is to raise and domesticate wild animals which have some economic value in the fur and food industries and in medicine.

Even Older Sichuan Boat-Coffins

More of the boat-coffins used by the inhabitants of Sichuan — these from the fifth century B.C., the oldest such coffins ever found — have been located seventy-five kilometres from Chengdu. They were all orientated towards the northeast, with the front facing east, demonstrating that the people responsible for their positioning had some knowledge of astronomy. The coffins, of plain *nanmu* wood, are in the usual boat shape but are much longer than others found so far; they are 7.4 metres long, one metre wide at the front, eighty centimetres wide in the middle and sixty centimetres wide at the foot.

Winning Architectural Designs

Buildings familiar to foreign visitors are among China's ten best architectural designs of the 1980s as chosen by the China Art Research Institute, the China Contemporary Architectural Institute and the China Association of Environmental Art. They include the Beijing International Exhibition Centre, Wuyi Mountain Villa in northern Fujian, the Dunhuang Airport Building in Gansu, Xinjiang Guesthouse (reserved for state guests) in Ürümqi in Xinjiang, the Longbai Hotel in Shanghai and Queli Guesthouse in Qufu, Shandong. The judges made their selection on the basis of artistic creativeness and cultural significance.

Olives Thrive in South

Having been introduced from Albania in 1964, olive trees are flourishing in eight of China's southern and southwestern provinces. There are at present around five million olive trees, three million of them in Sichuan alone. It is estimated that China will soon be able to cover its own needs in olive oil and related products. The Shenzhen Technological Institute for Olives has been set up to solve production problems and to seek cooperation from other olive-growing countries.

Puning Monastery Reopened

Following restoration, Puning Monastery — built in 1755 under the Qing dynasty and modelled on a Tibetan temple — has been reopened to the public in Chengde, the former imperial summer resort in northeastern Hebei Province. The main feature of the monastery is an enormous wooden statue — the largest in China — of the Bodhisattva Avalokitesvara. This stands 22.28 metres tall and weighs 110 tons. Forty of its forty-two arms have an eye on the palm of the hand.

Giant Relief Sculpture

Xi'an, capital of Shaanxi Province, now boasts another superlative to attract visitors: China's largest relief sculpture. Fourteen metres high and thirty metres long, the relief features Qin Shihuang, the first emperor of the Qin dynasty (221-206 B.C.), whose necropolis features Xi'an's famous terracotta army. Made of four hundred tons of sand and cement, the relief was installed last month in the joint-venture Gudu Restaurant.

Massive Rise in Transport Fares

Last month we brought you the good news for travellers in China. Now for the bad news.... The biggest price increase for transportation in the forty-year history of the People's Republic went into effect on September 5 1989. A State Council spokesman, when announcing this move, justified it in view of the 'unreasonably low fares' for years (some train fares had not been increased since 1955) and the urgent need for renovation and expansion of China's overloaded transport systems.

Passenger fares on most trains, airlines and shipping routes have been more or less doubled. Ticket prices for rail journeys of less than one hundred kilometres have risen by 60 percent, over one hundred kilometres by 120 percent. Ships run by the Shanghai and Guangdong Ocean Shipping Offices, the Dalian and Yangtse Shipping Corporations and the Heilongjiang Shipping Bureau have increased fares by 96 percent. Ticket prices on domestic air routes have risen by 77 percent. After all increases, foreign travellers will be paying around 70 percent more than Chinese passengers across the board — more or less the same as under the previous pricing system.

However, it is stressed that the new policy will not affect the recently announced special discounts on domestic air travel, which will remain valid until the end of 1989.

Vanishing Lakes

A Xinjiang geologist has warned that human activities are affecting the lakes of northwestern China. Some lakes are disappearing, while the water level in others has dropped sharply or they are becoming salt lakes, with consequent damage to aquatic life. Lake Juyan on the Alataw Plateau and the lakes Bosten, Ebinur, Ulungur and Manas — among the largest in the region — are listed as endangered. Excessively rapid population growth and the development of large-scale farming, with tapping of rivers in their upper reaches for irrigation and industrial purposes, are among the factors cited.

Palace Hotel's Food Street

Every Saturday from 18:00 to 22:00 hours, the Palace Hotel in Beijing offers something out of the ordinary. Live entertainment and a fashion show are just some of the features of its 'Palace Food Street', located next to the swimming pool and the Chinese garden twelve metres above ground level on Wangfujing, the capital's main shopping street. Food stalls manned by chefs preparing specialities from Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Hong Kong are the main attraction. A glass of punch is included in the entrance fee of 70FEC for adults, 40FEC for children.

First Moslem University

China's first Moslem university has now begun to enrol students. The Xi'an Moslem Cultural Training University, set up by non-government organizations in the capital of Shaanxi Province, mainly accepts students from the ten minorities which follow Islam. The two-year courses will include English, Arabic and law. The university also offers advanced Moslem cultural training courses and workshops for Moslem entrepreneurs.

NEXT ISSUE

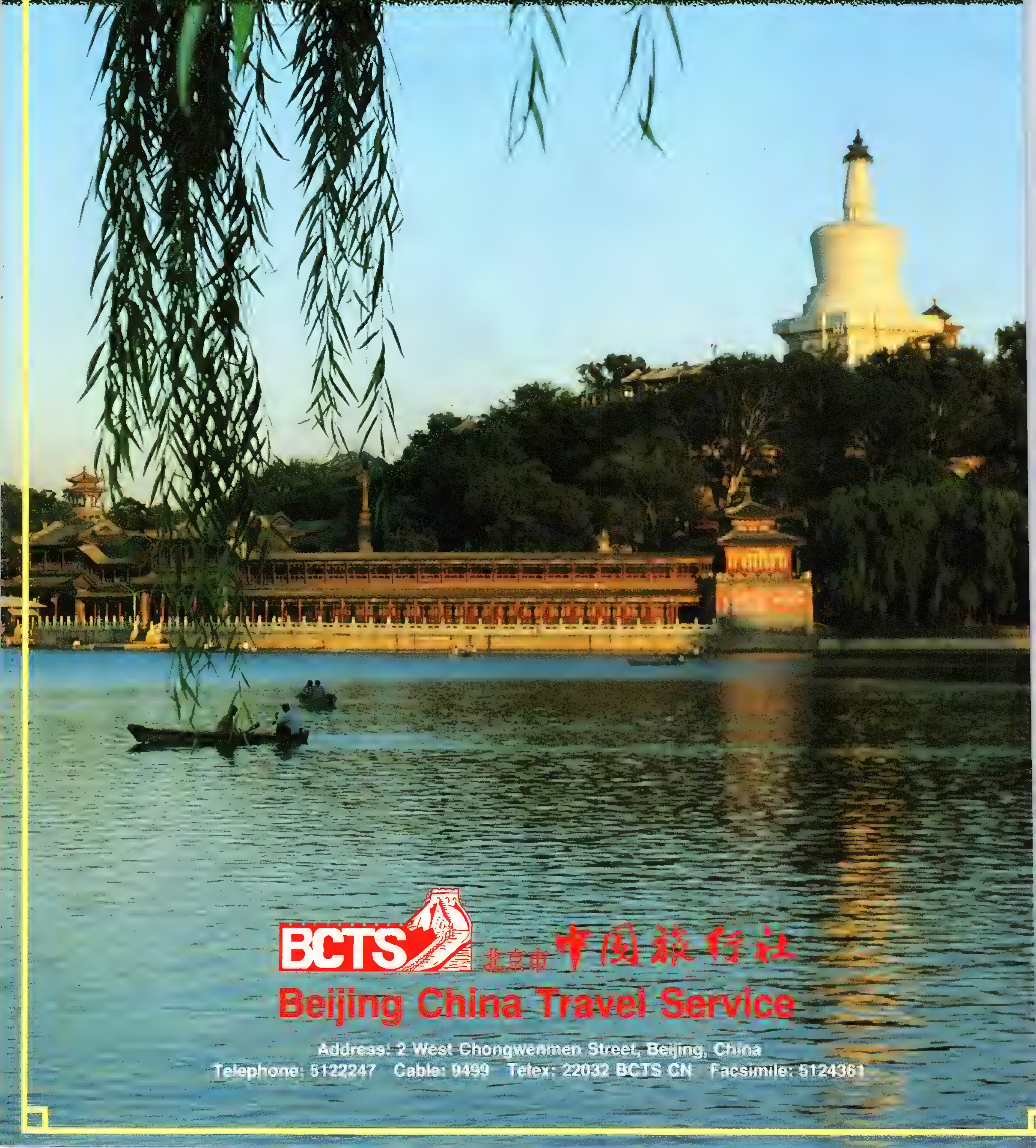
New Destinations Special

This issue is an exciting potpourri of ideas on where to go and what to do next in China, especially for those with a love of nature and a taste for more rugged destinations:

- Alxa, Land of Camels (Inner Mongolia)
- Into the Colourful World of the Siguniang Mountains (Sichuan)
- China's Attraction in Miniature (Guangdong)
- Amid Snow and Ice: Life in the A'nyêmaqên Mountains (Qinghai)
- Shooting the 'Nine Rapids' (Guangdong)

Other topics will include:

- A Han-Dynasty Tomb Reveals Its Secrets (Jiangsu)
- Alxa's Ancient Pictures on Black Granite (Inner Mongolia)



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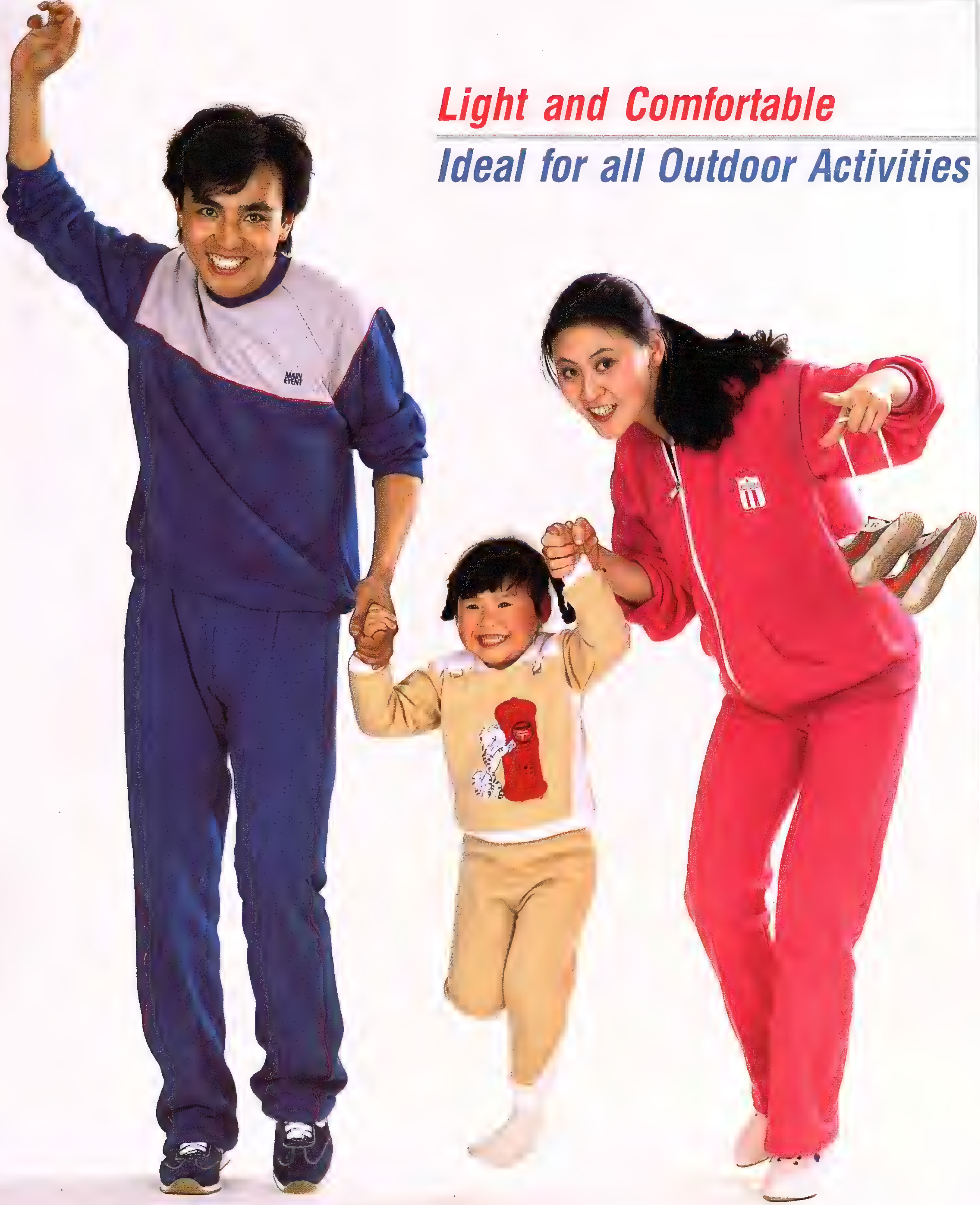
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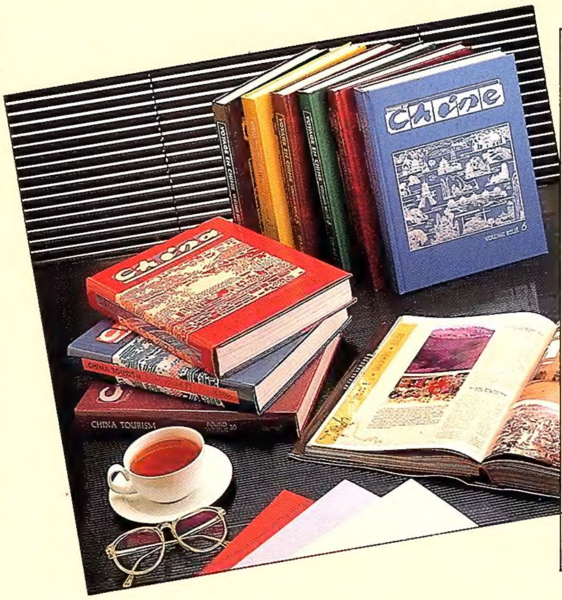

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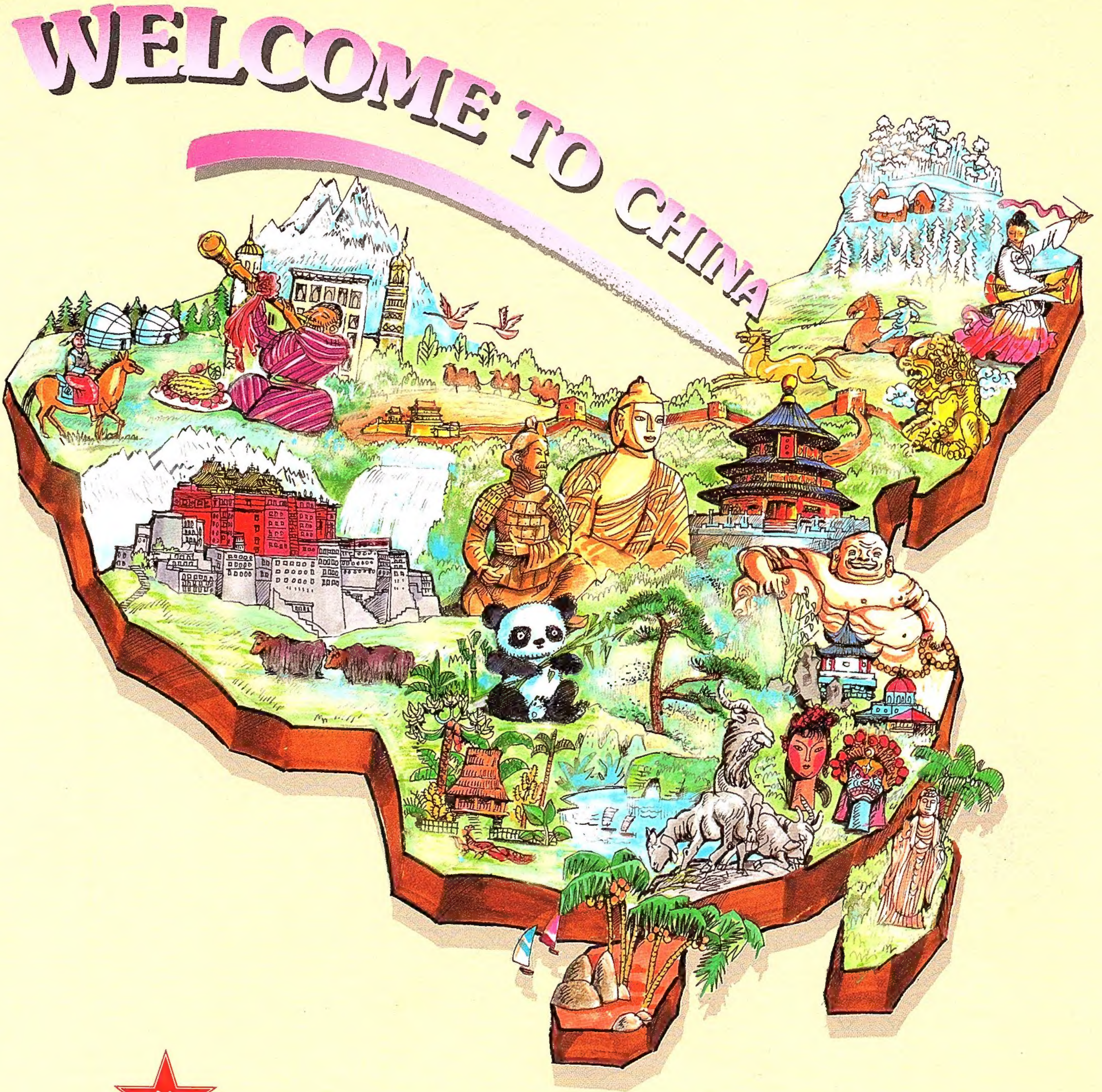

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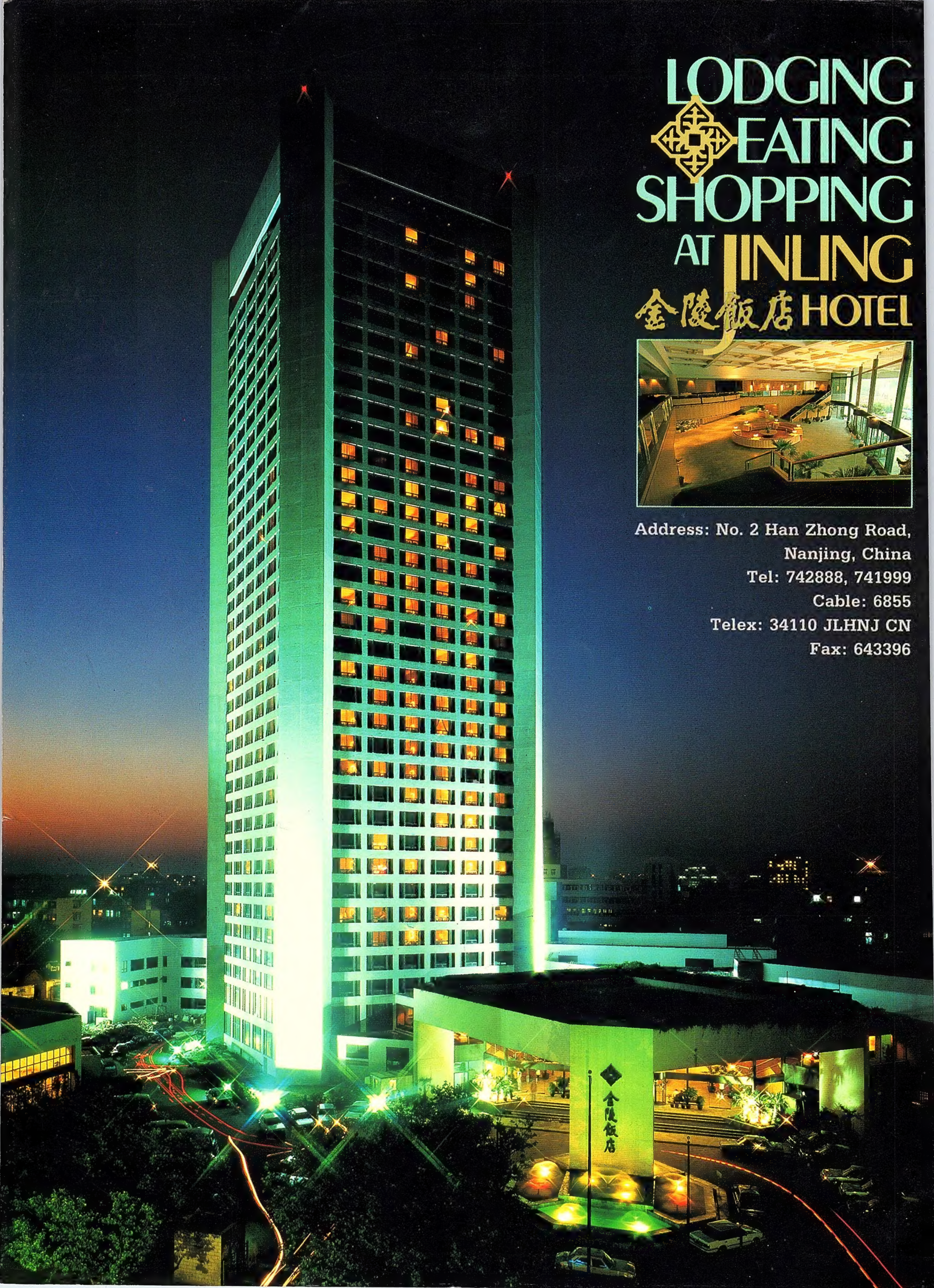
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